The Literary Digest

A WEEKLY COMPENDIUM OF THE CONTEMPORANEOUS THOUGHT OF THE WORLD.

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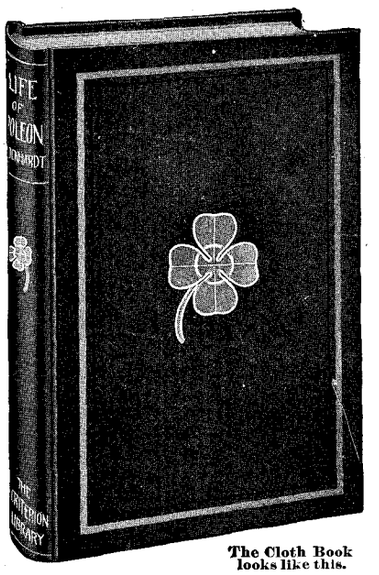

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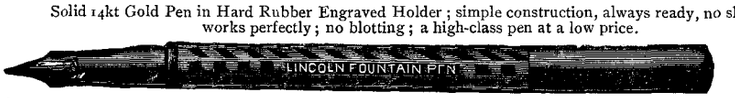

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PUBLISHERS' NOTE: The Index of Volume XXI. of THE LITERARY DIGEST, including twenty-six numbers from July 7 to December 29, is now printed and will be mailed free to any subscriber upon request sent to the publishers by postal card or letter.

TOPICS OF THE DAY.

THE NEW SITUATION IN SOUTH AFRICA.

DURING last week, the apprehension in British circles caused by the activity of the invading Boer commandos in Cape Colony was increased rather than diminished, and the opinion is freely expressed in the newspapers that a new lease of life has been given to the South African war by the tactics of the Boers. Richmond, Middelburg, and Graaf Reinet, all of them in the very heart of Cape Colony, have been the scenes of successful looting forays; farther to the north, a British convoy of twenty-six wagons loaded with stores valued at $250,000 was captured, tho this exploit was in part offset by the British capture of five wagons of supplies and 6,000 rounds of ammunition from General De Wet. In the districts now under martial law in Cape Colony are towns within but a few miles of Cape Town itself. The Government has issued an urgent call for volunteers, and guns have been landed from the war-ship *Monarch* to protect Cape Town. "Not in the worst days of the early part of the war," remarks the New York *Tribune*, "when Ladysmith and Kimberley were besieged, did the Boers carry their standard so far into the British colonies." It continues:

"The Boer raiders are not seeking mere loot and destruction. Their hope is to raise the masses of the Dutch population in Cape Colony into open revolt against the Government. That was their aim at the outbreak of the war, and in it they nearly succeeded, being baffled only by the arrival of Lord Roberts at Cape Town. They are trying it again, and are coming nearer to success. There is little doubt that some thousands of the Cape Dutch have already joined them, so that the forces now menacing Graaf Reinet and Cape Town are composed not so largely of invading Boers as of insurgent Cape Colonists. It is in truth a genuine and serious rebellion of its own subjects that the British Government now has on hand. It will suppress it, beyond doubt. But the bitterness of feeling between the two races will be most deplorably intensified and prolonged."

"Little stock should be taken in the idea that these men are fighting from despair," says the Providence *Journal*; "it is cool brainwork, not passion, which is securing them their unexampled mobility and their wonderful escapes." "Of course, the capture of De Wet," declares the New York *Commercial Advertiser*, "would change the whole situation; but who can guess where De Wet is, or upon what garrison he will pounce next?" The Detroit *News* adds:

"If De Wet is chased up a gully which appears to be a *cul-de-sac*, he always finds an outlet. He has supplies scattered all over the country and friends to aid him. The British must carry their supplies as they pursue, and are always hampered with a baggage-train of some sort. General Sheridan blocked the game of the Confederates by burning and destroying everything in the Shenandoah valley and converting the most fertile district of the State into a barren desert. Kitchener, if he adopts similar tactics, has a hundred valleys to block and an area of half a million square miles to devastate before he can make the country uninhabitable for De Wet."

General Kitchener held a conference at Pretoria about two weeks ago with some of the most influential of the burghers who have surrendered to the British, and steps were taken to issue a peace proclamation emphasizing the hopelessness of further resistance and promising that the burghers who surrendered should be sent back to their own districts. There is not much confidence, however, that this action will have any appreciable effect. "The difficulty with the Boers," says the New York *Herald*, "is that they are perfectly willing to be killed in the cause they have espoused, and when a man is in that state of mind he never knows when he is whipped. For that matter, he never is whipped until he is dead."

Lord Roberts's return to England has been signalized by a great popular demonstration and by his elevation to the rank of an earl in the peerage of Great Britain; but a damper was put upon his greeting by the grave news from Cape Colony. Says the Philadelphia *Bulletin*:

"London may cheer itself hoarse in welcome to 'Bobs,' and royalty and parliament may confer on him the highest rewards; but under existing conditions the outside world will decline to be greatly impressed by the spectacle. It is likely to arouse cynical amusement in the minds of beholders, rather than respect for the might of the great empire whose soldiers have been outfought and out-maneuvered in dozens of minor engagements, and whose present power over the vast regions which it has recently annexed is more fiction than fact."

"It is now pretty certain that the earliest possible date for the real ending of the war in South Africa will be next May or June," observes the Cleveland *Leader*, and the Boston *Journal* voices an opinion found in many papers when it remarks that "England seems to be fulfilling Mr. Froude's prediction that she would create for herself a second Ireland in South Africa."

The Springfield *Republican* thinks that "the worst feature of the situation is only beginning to dawn upon the consciousness of the British"; and that feature is the unconquerable spirit of the "border nations, small but dauntless, which have exercised such an immense influence in all ages upon the course of the world." Such nations have been able to wage war for centuries, until the verge of extermination. "These border nations," it

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says, "are the tough, hardy sprouts of the perennial springtime of human freedom. Comparatively few of them have ever been entirely conquered and wholly absorbed."

WILL THE ISTHMIAN CANAL INJURE THE PACIFIC-COAST CITIES?

SOME anxiety is being felt by people on the Pacific slope from a fear that the isthmian canal, by creating a short cut from our Atlantic ports to China and the Philippines, will leave the California, Oregon, and Washington ports on a "side-track," two thousand miles north of the main route of trade to the far East. As the San Francisco *Argonaut* says:

"San Francisco is now the great distributing center for the through trade between Atlantic ports and the countries of the Pacific. Goods are brought here by rail to be shipped to Japan, China, Australia, Hawaii, and the Oriental countries; they are brought here by ship from these countries to be sent to the East by rail. As Pacific commerce develops, this trade would naturally increase. Would Eastern importers and exporters find it more economical to ship directly by way of the Nicaragua Canal? Or would the railroad companies find it to their advantage to reduce rates sufficiently to meet this competition? This is one of the elements of uncertainty that enter into the question. Should an extensive trade between Atlantic ports and the Orient by way of the canal develop, would the vessels engaged in this trade be likely to call at San Francisco or other Pacific coast ports? They might call for coal, but San Francisco would have to import the coal to supply them, and could not any other port from Townsend on the north to Brito on the south be able to import it as cheaply?"

The Seattle *Post-Intelligencer*, too, declares that among the reasons that are advanced for the construction of the canal, "the reader will seek in vain for any that can possibly apply to the North Pacific coast. We will not even be on a spur track of the great ocean highway that it establishes." It believes that "the canal would be a bad thing locally, bad for Seattle, for the State of Washington, and all its producers," and goes so far as to say that "in view of the limitations upon its use, its comparative worthlessness to sailing-vessels, the tolls that must still be imposed on commerce, and the enormous amount that must be raised by taxation to build it, we are frankly of the opinion that the Government ought not, at this time, to undertake the construction of an isthmian canal."

The Argonaut, however, says that it is not its purpose "to argue that the canal would not be a benefit to California and to the Pacific coast, or to urge that its construction would not be advisable," and a careful reading of the Pacific-coast papers shows that most of them believe that other results that the canal will bring (such as lower freight rates that will facilitate the exchange of products with the Eastern States) outweigh the reasons that can be urged against its construction.

AFRO-AMERICAN PAPERS ON SOUTHERN REPRESENTATION.

A RENEWED interest seems to be manifest in Congress in the proposal to cut down Southern representation to fit the reduced vote that has followed the disfranchisement of most of the negroes in several States; but most of the press believe that nothing will be done about it. The Chicago *Chronicle* (Dem.) says: "The reluctance of the Republican Party to take up this question is unaccountable. Few domestic problems are of greater importance. No one lies nearer the foundation of decent and orderly representative self-government." The New Orleans *Times-Democrat* (Dem.), however, remarks: "Congress can not cut down the representation of the Southern States under the fourteenth and fifteenth amendments until it has some data showing how many voters have actually been disfranchised 'because of race, color, or previous condition'; and it has, as every one knows, not the slightest information on this subject." Representative Olmsted, of Pennsylvania, offered a resolution in the House last week directing that the committee on census be asked to obtain this information, and more may be heard about this topic later.

In the mean time, it is interesting to see what the Afro-American press, the organs of the race most vitally interested, have to say. *The Colored American*, published in Washington, says:

"This is no party question; it oversteps the bounds of party or section and comes directly at the heart of the whole people. The negro has not been given his rights, as guaranteed to him by the Constitution. We ask nothing more; we ask no quarter, we want only our right. And we have the right to protest against being represented in Congress, when we have no voice in the selection of the representative. Let the South cut those obnoxious disfranchisement laws out, and the negro stands with it. Otherwise Congress will cut down the representation."

The New York *Age*, which is perhaps the leading Afro-American journal in the United States, has little hope that the Su-

J. BULL: "Holy smoke! That's the same present I got last year."
—*The Minneapolis Tribune.*

WILL IT RISE?
—*The Minneapolis Journal.*

SOME SOUTH AFRICAN RISINGS.

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preme Court will adjudge the Southern disfranchisement laws unconstitutional; and it declares that "if the Supreme Court of the United States was out of the way or so created as to be amenable to the Constitution, dealing with questions affecting the Afro-American's rights, we should have no trouble in the matter; but the Supreme Court of the United States stands as a bulwark for all that is venomous in dealing with the rights of Afro-American people." The plan to reduce the Southern representation does not satisfy *The Age*, for after the reduction is accomplished the negro will still be without the ballot, in as bad case as before. It continues:

"The right of the Afro-American people to equality in the suffrage laws of every State is a principle so thoroughly embedded in the Constitution of the United States that no power in the federal compact can have power to deny it or abridge it. It should be our purpose to insistently fight for a recognition of this just principle of the Constitution in a way which would not jeopardize the main right in the meting out to those who violate the letter and the spirit of the fundamental law that retribution which goes along as penalty of wrong-doing."

MORE COMMENT ON THE CONSTITUTION AND THE FLAG.

THE report that ex-President Harrison has been retained in one of the cases now before the Supreme Court to argue for his belief that the Constitution extends by its own power to cover Porto Rico, Hawaii, and the Philippines, is the most recent phase of this momentous and critical examination of our form of government. It appears that some of the party leaders have been criticizing the ex-President sharply for his public expressions of an opinion contrary to the Administration policy, and some have said that his public discussion of a question still before the Supreme Court was an act of doubtful propriety. The New York *Press* (Rep.) says: "To harangue the populace on a question before the court is a surprising proceeding on the part of an American lawyer. On the part of an American lawyer who has been an American chief magistrate it is incomprehensible." Mr. Harrison, in a speech in Indianapolis on New Year's eve, may have had these criticisms in mind when he said:

"The decapitation of the ex-President when the oath of office has been administered to his successor would greatly vivify a somewhat tiresome ceremonial. And we may some time solve the newspaper problem what to do with our ex-Presidents in that conclusive way. Until then I hope an ex-President may be permitted to live somewhere midway between the house of gossip and the crypt of the mummy.

"He will know perhaps in an especial way how to show the highest honor to the Presidential office, and the most courteous deference to the President. Upon great questions, however, especially upon questions of constitutional law, you must give an ex-President his freedom or the ax, and it is too late to give me the ax."

The newspaper editors, too, seem to feel free to give their views on this important topic, and some of the most interesting of their expressions of opinion will be found in the quotations that follow.

New England.

The Boston *Advertiser* (Rep.) calls Mr. Harrison's warning against the dangers of imperialism "splendid and patriotic"; but the Boston *Herald* (Ind.) thinks that if his view prevails the seriousness of the problems of our new possessions "will be enormously enhanced," and it believes "that in this instance a majority of the justices will probably decide that Congress has the right to make separate and distinct laws for both Porto Rico and the Philippines." The Boston *Transcript* (Rep.) takes the opportunist view that "the Constitution is a chart, and every chart to be of value must be constantly amended, as new rocks, shoals, and currents are discovered or developed"; and the Boston *Journal* (Rep.) thinks that in the case of this particular rock "we do not want a decision that the Constitution is already operative from end to end of the Philippine archipelago." The Hartford *Times* (Ind. Dem.) rejoices that ex-President Harrison has "hit the imperialist crowd a blow under which they are visibly staggering," and the Springfield *Republican* (Ind.), which hopes that the court will confirm Mr. Harrison's opinion, predicts that such a decision "would take the breath out of imperialism and throw it into panic." The Hartford *Courant* (Rep.) hints that Mr. Harrison's opinion may be due to "the mental attitude of ex-Presidents toward their successors."

New York and Philadelphia.

The New York *Sun* (Rep.) not only holds that the Constitution does not follow the flag, but declares that the intellectual reputation of Mr. Harrison has been damaged by his expression of the contrary opinion, and the New York *Times* (Ind. Dem.) thinks that the ex-President is suffering from a "curable nervous

A QUESTION THAT CAUSES A BAD CASE OF NIGHTHORSE.
—*The St. Paul Pioneer Press.*

excitement, which has been communicated to him from the excessively septic literature of anti-imperialism." The New York *Herald* (Ind.), however, declares that "if the court does not hold that 'the Constitution follows the flag' its decision will be a great surprise to the ablest constitutional lawyers of the country." The New York *Press* (Rep.) agrees with Attorney-General Griggs that if the Constitution hinders the nation from exercising the powers that other nations enjoy, then "it is a shackle about the neck of the country"; but the New York *Evening Post* (Ind.) thinks that "it is a strange plea for a lawyer to make, that the Constitution can not mean so and so because that would limit our powers. To limit and define the powers of government was one of the great aims of the Constitution." The New York *Journal* (Dem.) asks: "Is it possible that a man can reach the position of Attorney-General of the United States and not learn that our Government is one of enumerated powers, and that all powers not granted to it are denied? What a beautiful sensation the Griggs theory would have created if it had been put forward in the Federal convention of 1787!"

In Philadelphia, *The Times* (Dem.) believes that ex-Presidents Harrison and Cleveland "can justly claim to be in sympathy with the decided majority of the more intelligent convictions of the people"; and *The North American* (Rep.) agrees with Wayne MacVeagh, President Garfield's Attorney-General, who said a few days ago: "That in time of peace the Constitution does not follow but precedes the flag, is as certain as anything in this world can be, for in time of peace the flag has no right to be anywhere but where the Constitution authorizes it to

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be; and it follows as the night the day that whatever is done under its folds must be done subject to the limitations the Constitution prescribes, for it is not the flag but the Constitution which secures 'the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity.'" *The Bulletin* (Rep.) remarks that Mr. Harrison "has shown in the most positive way how it is possible for a citizen in his position to render valuable public service by just and timely criticism of dangerous governmental policies"; while *The Press* (Rep.), Postmaster-General Smith's paper, declares that a "narrow adjudication" of the case before the court "commits the United States to a barren policy and practise, in which its powers can never be used and its flag never be extended over either territory or people not ready for complete assimilation. The broad work of raising to civilization lands unequal to the step alone, of sharing in the task of the world's great powers, is barred to it."

The Middle West and Northwest.

Turning from Philadelphia to Chicago, one finds two more Republican papers indorsing the anti-Administration view that the Constitution follows the flag. The Chicago *Times-Herald* (Rep.) declares that the ideas that our Government "may discriminate between sections, that it may be part representative and part non-representative, are notions so strange and astounding that it is difficult to conceive how they could ever have found expression in the United States"; and the Chicago *Evening Post* (Rep.) says that in the Constitution "despotic power over millions of annexed people is neither expressly granted nor implied. It is repugnant to all distinctive American principles." The Chicago *Record* (Ind.) says: "The United States must exercise imperial control, at variance with the most vital principles of the Constitution, or it must take the Philippines to its bosom as an integral part of the nation. The only escape from one or the other of these courses probably lies in relinquishing the islands." The Chicago *Tribune* (Rep.) would not be surprised to see the court disagree with General Harrison, and remarks that it would merely be "another illustration of the fact that the best of lawyers are not always infallible."

The Indianapolis *News* (Ind.) suggests that in case the Supreme Court's decision is not acceptable to the people, the Constitution can be amended, while the Indianapolis *Sentinel* (Dem.) urges granting independance to the Philippines. The Detroit *Free Press* (Ind. Dem.) remarks that "if Mr. Harrison is not guilty of treason, he is obviously guilty of *lèse majesté*, and with ten years more of benevolent assimilation he might expect to be punished for thus invoking the spirit of the fathers." The Columbus *Ohio State Journal* (Rep.) favors the view that Congress can legislate for our dependencies without limitation by the Constitution; but the Detroit *News* (Ind.) remarks: "It may be that we have the legal right to subjugate distant islands and hold their inhabitants as subjects, but this is no reason why we should do it. The fact that we may do this and incur the long train of evils that may result from such a departure may be just the reason why an imperialistic policy should be abandoned." The Milwaukee *Journal* (Rep.) argues that even if the court does decide that the Philippines are an integral part of the United States, the disastrous results that have been predicted will not necessarily follow; and the St. Paul *Pioneer Press* (Rep.) takes the equally optimistic view that an opposite decision of the court, giving Congress plenary power, "threatens no liberty" of our island peoples, and "relieves them of burdens they could not bear."

The South.

Most of the Southern papers seem to agree with ex-President Harrison rather than with the Administration. The Richmond *Times* (Ind. Dem.) says that "public confidence that the Supreme Court of the United States will remove the foul blot of the Porto Rican and Philippine tariff infamy from the statute books will be increased by the blighting logic of Mr. Harrison's address"; and the Baltimore *Sun* (Ind.) declares that "if Congress can put upon Porto Rico, the Philippines, and Alaska any form of government it sees fit, then governments do not derive their just powers from the consent of the governed." The Louisville *Courier-Journal* (Dem.) says: "There is high authority for saying that the disciple is not above his master nor the servant above his lord, but that assertion is now called in question by the department of justice of the United States, acting for Congress as well as the whole administration. In other words, it is gravely asserted that a Congress created by the Constitution can act without the Constitution and contrary to it." The Houston *Post* (Dem.) quotes ex-President Harrison's sentiments with manifest approval, and the New Orleans *Picayune* declares that "his view is that of a great constitutional lawyer, filled with the spirit of American liberty, while the doctrine put forward by Attorney-General Griggs, representing President McKinley, is in conformity to a movement to set aside and subvert the Constitution and merge the republic into the empire." The Macon *Telegraph* (Dem.), on the other hand, seems to indorse the Administration view when it says: "It is idle to talk of liberty and George Washington and the consent of the governed when we come to deal with tribes such as the Sioux, Blackfeet, Apaches, and some of those to be found in the Philippines. None of our wild tribes here at home have ever 'consented' to be shut up within certain limits, except at the point of the bayonet. We had either to force them or our development of adjacent regions had to stop. So in the Philippines, we shall again have to be inconsistent with our theories of government, or give up our plans of exploration and development in that part of the world."

West of the Mississippi.

The St. Louis *Globe-Democrat* (Rep.) notes that the Administration's contention "is in line with the position taken by such eminent authorities as Marshall, Webster, Benton, Jefferson, and many other distinguished men," while the Kansas City *Times* (Dem.) makes the conflicting assertion that "if the Supreme Court shall sustain the position which the President has taken through his legal representative, the whole previous theory of the government, as it has been interpreted by every responsible authority from the author of the Declaration of Independence to the present day, will be destroyed." The Topeka *Capital* (Rep.) quotes Webster and Benton to show that the Administration view is the correct one. The Des Moines *Leader* (Ind.), on the other hand, calls General Harrison's views "admirable," and the Omaha *Bee* (Rep.) concurs in saying that they "will have the effect to strengthen sentiment against the prevailing policy regarding the new possessions." The Omaha *World-Herald* (Dem.) observes sarcastically that "the Republican organs that are congratulating Mr. Harrison upon his able arguments are the same organs that ridiculed Mr. Bryan when he advanced identically the same arguments." The Denver *Republican* (Rep.) declares that "the Constitution goes just as far as the nation wishes it to go, and it has been extended to new territory only by a declaration to that effect expressed through an act of Congress."

"It seems impossible to understand," remarks the San Francisco *Chronicle*, "how a government created by a constitution can exercise authority outside the constitution which creates it"; and the San Francisco *Call* (Rep.) believes that if the court confirms such a view it will be necessary either to amend the Constitution or to treat the Philippines as we are treating Cuba. The Seattle *Post-Intelligencer* (Rep.) sums up the Republican view by saying that "while the Constitution of the United States probably does not extend of its own inherent force over the new possessions of the United States, the principles of constitutional liberty do so extend; and they will be respected, upheld, and declared wherever American courts are established."

Pensions for Railroad Employees.—While in Germany a pension for the aged laborer is provided by the Government, a similar pension system is being started in this country by the railroad corporations. The Pennsylvania Railroad has had such a plan in operation for some time, and now *The Railway World* (Philadelphia) reports that the Chicago and Northwestern road and the Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul are also about to establish similar systems. "Adoption of a pension plan by the Santa Fé management," says the same journal, "is likely in the near future." It is estimated that this new departure will cost the Chicago and Northwestern $200,000 a year, and the Cincinnati *Times-Star* applauds the road's action as altruism. The Chicago *Public*, however, a single-tax weekly, says:

"Every employee who receives such pecuniary benefits either earns them or gets them as a charity dole. It is one thing or the

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other. But if he does earn them, he ought to be able to get them as a right, and not as a privilege under an employer's patronage. If he does not earn them, then he is the petty beneficiary of a degrading charity system. In our view every man, woman, or child who works earns more than his wages plus all the altruistic benefits he receives. And tho we offer no condemnation of charitable intervention while workers are plundered to the extent of impoverishment, we do not hesitate to denounce devices which, in the guise of charity or the name of altruism, serve to deaden the public conscience while universal robbery through special privilege is perpetuated."

WHAT IS THE CHIEF DANGER CONFRONTING THE NEW CENTURY?

A NUMBER of prominent men and women were recently asked to state what they believed to be the greatest menace to twentieth-century progress, and the answers given to the question are certainly interesting, tho their variety makes them rather bewildering. The persons addressed (by the New York *World*) guess the conundrum in a hundred different ways, guided to their conclusions by temperament or individual experience. It appears, however, that the consensus of opinion centers upon imperialism and war as being the greatest dangers confronting humanity at the present day, and Andrew Carnegie, millionaire, joins hands with Thier Hardie, Socialist, in arraigning the evils of militarism. "I believe," says Mr. Carnegie, "that ere the twentieth century closes the earth will be purged of its foulest shame, the killing of men by men in battle under the name of war." W. T. Stead writes in similar vein, declaring that the chief menace to man's progress is "war, which threatens Christendom as the result of ignoring Christian principles in its dealings with one fourth of the human race which is born inside a yellow skin." To Sir Walter Besant the danger appears especially one of increasing naval armaments, designed "apparently for self-protection," but in reality for aggression; while Lord Charles Beresford regards "the Chinese question" with most apprehension. Karl Blind, the German political economist, John Dillon, the Irish member of parliament,

"GOOD-BY. YOU CERTAINLY HAVE BEEN GOOD TO ME."
—*The New York World.*

and H. W. Massingham, the British journalist, agree that no more serious danger threatens than imperialism.

In many quarters, however, the greatest menace is believed to be of a social rather than international nature. The Earl of Wemyss states it as his opinion that Socialism is blocking the march of human progress, and Arthur W. Pinero, the dramatist, attacks trade-unionism. Joseph Arch, the English labor leader, retaliates by declaring that "a large accumulation of wealth on the one hand and a large increase of pauperism on the other" is the growing evil in society; and Samuel Gompers expresses fears for the lowering of the American standard of living by

DAWN OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY AS IT STRIKES EUROPE.
—*The Detroit News-Tribune.*

Oriental competition. "The greatest political danger of the twentieth century," maintains William J. Bryan, "is that the increasing influence of wealth will lead to increasing disregard of the inalienable rights of man." President Schurman, of Cornell University, fears most the "exaltation, worship, and pursuit of money as the foremost good of life." "The salt that may save us from this blight," he adds, "is to be found in our schools and churches, in every union for a righteous cause, and most of all in the ideals and aspirations of the noble souls who will not suffer human society to degenerate into a mere brutish struggle for life and the survival of the fittest." President Hadley, of Yale University, finds the threat to the public welfare in "legislation based on the self-interest of individuals, or classes, instead of on public sentiment and public spirit."

Among the ecclesiastics, emphasis is laid on the moral virtues. When questioned regarding coming dangers, the Bishop of Hereford replied, in the words of Colossians iii. 5: "Evil desires and covetousness." The Bishop of Llandaff answered: "Infidelity, anarchy"; the Bishop of Gloucester: "Self-advertising vanity." Dean Farrar declares: "The chief social danger is the dominance of drink. The chief political danger is our apathetic laxity in facing serious problems." Cardinal Gibbons says that "the greatest dangers that now seem to confront us are political corruption and the lust for gain and the unholy purpose to which it is perverted."

Four authors, Stanley Weyman, Max Beerbohm, Conan Doyle, and Max O'Rell, fear most the growing power of what Dr. Doyle calls "an ill-balanced, excitable, and sensation-mongering press," and what Max Beerbohm describes as the "jumpy journals." Mme. Sarah Grand finds the greatest evil in the laxity of marriage relations; Ellen Terry, in growing artificiality in our social life; and George R. Sims, in the spread of insanity. Henry Arthur Jones, the English playwright, sums up his conclusion in the word "Dishonesty"; William Watson, in the word "Greed."

"Among all these discordant voices," facetiously observes the Philadelphia *Times*, "there was one note of wisdom. The Archbishop of Canterbury, asked what was the chief danger of the

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coming century, replied: 'I have not the slightest idea.' If all our prophets were as judicious as Dr. Temple, they would command more respect."

GENERAL ALGER'S DEFENSE OF ARMY BEEF.

THE fact that nearly nine tenths of the casualties in our army during the Spanish war were the result of disease; the further fact that the soldiers who died of disease in the United States numbered more than twice as many as all those who died of disease in Cuba, Porto Rico, the Philippines, Hawaii, and at sea; and the testimony of General Miles before the Dodge commission that in his judgment the food furnished to the army "was one of the serious causes of so much sickness and distress on the part of our troops," all help to explain why General Alger's remarks in the current *North American Review* on "The Food of the Army during the Spanish War" is, even at this late date, exciting comment all over the country. The following table may be made from figures contained in a letter written by Adjutant-General Corbin and published in *The Army and Navy Register* (Washington) in its issue for August 19, 1899:

CASUALTIES IN THE ARMY BETWEEN MAY, 1898, AND JUNE 30, 1899.

	Killed.	Died of wounds.	Died of disease.	Total.
Cuba	244	74	922	1,240
Porto Rico	4	8	255	267
Philippines	253	92	380	725
Hawaii	...	....	46	46
At sea	....	7	213	220
United States	6	8	4,091	4,105
Total	507	189	5,907	6,603

General Alger's article takes the form of an attack upon General Miles, who said in his testimony before the Dodge commission that "the pretense is" that the canned roast beef supplied to the army "was sent as an experiment," and who said of the refrigerated beef (which he called "embalmed beef"): "If I was furnished for any expedition in this country, or any other, with such stuff, I would prohibit the men from taking it. . . . I do not think that beef such as was sent to Cuba and Porto Rico would be good in any country in the stomach of any man." W. H. Daly, major and chief surgeon of volunteers, in a letter to the War Department, expressed the opinion that the fresh beef was "apparently preserved with secret chemicals," and said that the beef, "while it looked well, was of a sickening odor, like a human body dead of disease and injected with preservatives, and when cooked was quite unpalatable, consequently likely to prove an efficient cause of ill-health." General Alger charges that General Miles based his "startling and scandalous accusations" entirely upon the statements of Dr. Daly. Commissary-General Eagan, it will be remembered, used such strong language before the Dodge commission in replying to General Miles's charges that a court-martial recommended that he be dismissed from the service, a sentence that was commuted to suspension from rank and duty (but with full pay) for six years, until his retirement.

THE VOICE FROM THE GRAVE: "Let's try this beef again!" —*The St. Louis Republic.*

The allegation that the canned beef was supplied under pretense of experiment is bitterly resented by the former Secretary of War, who says that canned beef has been "a recognized part of the army ration for nearly a quarter of a century," and that France and England have in recent years bought more than 35,000,000 pounds of it in this country for their armies and navies. "The secret of the source of complaint" against it, he thinks, was the fact that it "should have been used only when cooked with vegetables and properly seasoned," which could not always be done. He adds: "The ration was not used to any great extent in the camps in the United States, but only on the transports to Cuba and Porto Rico, and for a short time in Cuba by part of Shafter's army in the trenches, where objection to its use could also be raised on account of the inability to cook and serve it suitably. A few issues were also made in Porto Rico." As regards the "embalmed" beef, General Alger quotes the verdict of the Dodge commission that it was not "subjected to or treated with any chemicals," and cites the verdict of the court of inquiry that it "was not 'doctored' or treated with any other agent than cold air," that the use of the refrigerated beef "was wise and desirable," and that "there was no better food available or practicable."

All these charges and counter-charges were matters of daily report in 1898 and 1899, so that the publication of them now is not strictly in the nature of news. What makes the article remarkable is that General Alger should attempt to revive the controversy now, and revive it in the form of a personal attack on General Miles. He calls General Miles's conduct "inexcusable" and "unsoldierly," and likens his charges against the commissary department to "a blow from an assassin's knife out of the dark." General Miles, he says in conclusion, was not only to blame for the sacrifice of "a brave, honest, and faithful officer" (General Eagan), but, "besides this, a false impression had been created throughout the country as to the food furnished the army, which may never be removed. The charges of General Miles, twice proven false in spirit and substance, are therefore the more heinous in their effect. Yet the present Congress promoted General Miles to be lieutenant-general, and has thus far failed to give to General Shafter the rank of major-general to retire upon in his old age, and this after his magnificent campaign at Santiago, as well as his former distinguished services."

Most of the newspapers side with General Miles. The New York *Journal of Commerce* says: "The whole indictment of General Eagan is, not that he bought canned beef, but that he bought bad canned beef and did not take the ordinary precautions of a dealer against being imposed on. As to the fresh beef, the effort to deliver it in a tropical latitude in July may have been impracticable; certainly it was unsuccessful. Whether the beef had been embalmed or not, much of it was not in good condition. The correspondence between General Eagan and some of the contractors is difficult to reconcile with any theory that General Eagan performed his full duty by the soldiers." The Detroit *Journal* (Rep.), on the other hand, declares: "The war, under all the circumstances, was one of the most brilliant in conception, execution, and triumph the history of the world records. The master-mind of it all was hounded

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from his exalted position into private life, while the chief traducer of his matchless service to his country is rewarded with undeserved and unearned honors."

GOVERNOR PINGREE'S PARDONS.

THE critics of Hazen S. Pingree, whose term as governor of Michigan expired with the old year, think that the quality of his mercy was not strained in the last few weeks of his term, when he pardoned so many convicts that it almost amounted, the Detroit papers say, to a prison delivery. The Philadelphia *Press* says that "such a record of wholesale pardoning has probably not been equaled in the same space of time by any governor of a State," and declares that "it is a reckless use of power for which no executive can be excused"; while the Chicago *Times-Herald* says that his "pardoning notorious crooks and swindlers" is "a matter that invites the gravest public concern." The Detroit papers have reported the rapid fire of pardons day by day, but a more comprehensive review of the month's work is given in a despatch from Jackson, Mich., where the state prison is located, to the New York *Journal*. It says:

"On December 1 there were in the Michigan state prison here 778 convicts. By the end of this month there will be less than 600. During the month of December alone Governor Pingree signed orders calling for the release of 119 prisoners. Pardons, paroles, and commutations of sentence have been numerous. Indeed the ex-governor signed pardons up to the last minute of his official career.

"Never before has the State of Michigan experienced such a general and indiscriminate prison delivery. The releases by order of Governor Pingree during December have numbered among them the most noted criminals in the State. They include twenty men serving time for offenses against women and nineteen serving life sentences for murder. One man, Archibald McCallum, who pleaded guilty of excessive brutality to his own mother, she being over eighty years of age, is now enjoying life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Noted forgers and world-renowned confidence men, besides the ordinary run of crooks, have been released."

Most of the pardoned prisoners were men who had been convicted of serious crimes. The "small fry" were left in jail. To quote again:

"The feast of pardons really began December 1, with the release of the former quartermaster-general of the State, Gen. W. L. White, who had fled to South Africa, after embezzling $43,000 from the military fund after the Spanish war. White pleaded guilty and was sentenced to ten years. He was pardoned before he had served thirty-six hours of his sentence, the reason given being that others, accomplices, had not been prosecuted. Gen. Arthur F. Marsh, adjutant-general of the State, an accomplice, was also pardoned, tho his case was before the Supreme Court and he had not been sentenced.

"Ever since then the pardon mill has been humming merrily, until to-day, in some of the departments of the prison, there are not men enough to do the work of the institution, which has been heretofore assigned to convicts. Every clerk and bookkeeper has been pardoned or paroled; in the tailor shop there is left but one lone man to make and repair the clothing for the remaining convicts, and he goes out this month.

"It will take months, now that Governor Pingree is out of office and there is some prospect that the stream of pardons will cease, to get the prison on a normal footing. New men will have to be broken in to fill the places of those who have been released.

"To most of the pardons Governor Pingree attached his reasons for extending executive clemency. In many cases they were as weird and wonderful as those given for the pardon of the 'two generals,' Marsh and White. The Molitor murderers were set at liberty because, it was stated, 'they had taken the law into their own hands and freed Isle County of a tyrant'; McCallum because 'both he and his victim were drunk'; Defrance, who had worked banks all over the country to the tune of hundreds of thousands of dollars, because 'public opinion was against him,' and a fair trial was impossible.

"The ex-governor is unsparing in his denunciation of judges, prosecuting attorneys, and juries. He has in nearly every instance taken the testimony presented by the attorneys for the prisoners, allowed the lawyers to draft some good-enough reasons for the pardons, and signed them without further investigation."

Governor Pingree said in his farewell address to the legislature that the newspapers had "lost no opportunity" to make personal attacks on him, and to publish "malicious and wilful libels," so it may be that a later report may show that Governor Pingree's large-hearted month of forgiveness was less injudicious than the newspapers represent.

NEW ZEALAND AS THE "EXPERIMENT STATION" FOR RADICAL LEGISLATION.

NEW ZEALAND democracy is to-day the talk of a good part of the world. Nowhere else has a government undertaken so many reform schemes, of which England and America have only begun to dream and talk; and not only have they been undertaken, but, according to Mr. Henry Demarest Lloyd, they are being conducted with success.

Last year Mr. Lloyd (who is the author of "Wealth Versus Commonwealth" and other notable books on industrial subjects), went to New Zealand to see for himself the most "advanced" democracy in the world. In his book, "Newest England," recently published, he writes of the people of New Zealand as a people who have almost completely substituted cooperation for competition in most of the departments of business. In their stores, factories, banks, and farms, the consumers and producers, the capitalists and laborers, are now one and the same class. He calls their democracy the "Farthest North" in the sphere of self-help.

New Zealand, or rather Australasia, is a sort of transported Europe, according to Mr. Lloyd, including transplanted men and ideas, animals and plants; and these men, left free in the South Seas to experiment to their hearts' content, have succeeded to a remarkable degree.

Yet these South Sea Englishmen still have some open seams in their ship of state. In municipal government they are even worse off than America and Europe. In New Zealand, "a country without strikes," trades-unionism is impotent to help out labor in the arbitration courts. That country has two great trusts, a sheep ring and a coal ring, and every one of the Government's reform schemes for dealing with land, labor, taxation, finance, and industry is lame somewhere; but, tho lame, "it still moves," and moves faster there than elsewhere. The New Zealanders, says Mr. Lloyd somewhat paradoxically, are not the most civilized, the most happy, the most prosperous people in the world; but they certainly are the least uncivilized, the least unhappy, the least disinherited.

The first scheme through which the people of New Zealand began to take business out of the hands of private individuals and conduct it collectively through their Government, was the public insurance act, passed by parliament in 1869 at the instance of Sir Julius Vogel. The people wanted insurance, but at that time the population of the country was so comparatively small and so far out of the world that the great life insurance companies elsewhere did not care to do business there. So from the start governmental insurance was popular. Now, the total amount of governmental insurance outstanding is $46,525,710 among a population of less than 900,000. Almost everybody in New Zealand over fifteen years of age is insured, the average for men being about $375, and for women about $35. The Government does more than one half of the insurance business, and it keeps the rates down to a minimum. Nothing illustrates better the general prosperity of the people than this enormous amount of capital invested in insurance. The Government con-

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ducts the business on the same principles as a private company. The fact that the state is behind every one of its policies and has never failed to pay up promptly has added to the popularity of state insurance. The state has also freed its policies of all oppressive restrictions. The one restriction is that the heirs of the insured can not collect if he or she commits suicide within six months of the time of taking out the policy.

There are several departments of this state insurance, one of which is called the "Temperance Section," for total-abstainers, which was established in 1882. In a few years "interesting statistics" are promised from this section on the relative length of life of drinkers and non-drinkers. The millions of dollars received by the Government annually for insurance go back to the people in loans.

Another interesting aspect of the Government's activities is the public trusteeship. When a man dies with his estate so invested that suspension of business would probably mean its ruin, the state, through its commissioner, steps in and takes the man's place, carrying the business on till the heirs can decide upon its disposition. When the man's widow is left with property she does not know how to manage or invest profitably, the public trustee, at her invitation, gives her his advice and the benefit of his assistance by investing and conducting the business for her. To this official cities or individuals desiring to create a public trust may go. A person wishing to be absent from his business for an indefinite period may put his business in the hands of this trustee and go away feeling perfectly assured that it will be conducted as well as, if not better than, he could conduct it himself. He knows the trustee is backed by the people, who are responsible for the last dollar if any blunder or mistake is made. The property of a man who becomes insane goes to the trustee also, and in conserved and protected for him or his heirs.

Another part of the book that will interest American readers is that which describes the Government's management of railroads, its methods of giving land to the landless, and its great success in teaching men to work without contractors and bosses, and in inducing the tramp and vagabond to take up the ax, the pick, and the spade.

The government railroads in New Zealand—and nearly all the leading roads are now under government control, we are told—are run for service and not for profit. The minister of railways said to Mr. Lloyd: "After we have earned enough to pay the expenses of the operation, and the interest on the money borrowed to build the railroads, we reduce charges as rapidly as profits increase." Any profit over three per cent. is now returned to the people in the form of cheaper rates. It costs adults one half a cent and children one fourth of a cent per mile to ride, and naturally the railroads are more popular there than elsewhere. Mr. Lloyd saw frequently great excursions of school-children going from the cities to the country, and *vice versa*. Children of the primary grades were carried free. Working-people are given the same rates for holiday trips as the schools. The rates on the trains between the cities and their suburbs are so low that the working-people can afford to have their homes several miles away from the shops.

A seven-pound parcel can be sent anywhere in the colony for twenty-five cents. Newspapers and books are carried for less than one half the rates that prevail in the United States. A farmer can send fifty-six pounds of his garden truck to the city for twelve cents, and a large shipper can get no lower rates than a small shipper. Such a thing as one shipper's getting a rebate or advantage over another is unknown.

The railroad problems that confront public ownership are:

When shall the new lines be built?

How shall the new employees be selected?

How shall promotion and conditions of employment be determined?

How shall rates be fixed?

They are regarded elsewhere as hard questions, but New Zealand is working out the answers with satisfaction. When the people want a new line in any certain locality, they petition the ministry, who in turn bring the subject before parliament, where it is finally decided. The minister of railways fixes the rates. The employees are selected on the basis of a civil-service examination. Examinations are also required for promotions. The railroad system is by no means perfect, for the principal cities, Auckland, the capital, and Wellington, are not yet connected by rail on account of jealousies of their inhabitants; but the people control all the roads they have built, and they give good service.

Among the things that soon become familiar to the traveler in New Zealand are the abolition of the contractor and direct employment by the state, the cooperative system of public works, the relief of the unemployed, the settlement of the land, and treasury advances to farmers and workingmen.

All these reforms were introduced in 1890 by an overwhelming vote of the people. The contractor had made himself as obnoxious to the workingman and the people as the landowners had made themselves to the farmers. Previous to 1890 considerably more than half of the best land in New Zealand was in the hands of a few men, the most of whom lived abroad. The great masses of the people were landless and homeless. They were forbidden to set their feet upon many of these wide tracts, laid out for sheep-raising and so enclosed as to make the land of many small farmers valueless. The Government, under the leadership of Premier John Ballance and Labor Commissioner Richard J. Siddon, condemned the vast tracts, paying their owners for them. Then began the building of public roads, railroads, and other public works through these lands, giving all the idle men in the colony work, and encouraging them to build homes along the roads they worked upon. In this way the people have recovered their lands, settled upon them, and are rid of the hated contract system. The state in turn was rewarded with good roads, railroads, and other public works; and to-day, in New Zealand, a man is regarded as being worth more than a sheep—the sheep that kept him off the land so long.

TOPICS IN BRIEF.

IF Mr. Hanna wants the subsidy bill passed on its merits, he should give it more of them.—*The Detroit News.*

LOOK out for number one—at the end of the nineteen hundred when writing a date.—*The Boston Transcript.*

THE quietude in Kentucky would indicate that the State has about run out of ammunition.—*The Washington Star.*

SLY BOERS.—The Boers are probably releasing the English prisoners in order to have somebody to fight.—*The Washington Post.*

A SCIENTIST prophesies that the earth will yet have a big ring like Saturn. Some people think there are several already.—*The Boston Globe.*

A SHORT time ago the British were complaining that they couldn't find DeWet, and now their chief trouble is their inability to lose him.—*The Salt Lake Herald.*

PROBABLY the report that Li Hung Chang has influenza was caused by his efforts to announce that the Empress had gone to SzeChuan.—*The Baltimore American.*

ALL DOWN BUT ONE.—Everybody else having handed down a decision in the Porto Rican case, we shall now hear what the court has to say.—*The Chicago Record.*

"WHAT'S this!" exclaimed the Boer general, in a tone of annoyance. "More prisoners." "Dear me! I wish they would show some consideration for the fact that we are trying to conduct a war instead of running a boarding-house."—*The Washington Star.*

IT is not certain whether Mr. Croker's silence on the way things are going in New York is due to satisfaction with the management or to the refusal of the cable companies to transmit the only language he deems appropriate to the situation.—*The Philadelphia Ledger.*

LAST winter two little children were standing in front of the main entrance to the Senate chamber, when Senator Chandler, who, as you know, is a great wag, and a friend came through the door. One of them, a little girl of eleven, burning with curiosity, stepped up to them and asked: "Mister, how much does it cost to go in there?" "You had better ask that gentleman coming up the corridor," said the Senator from New Hampshire, pointing to Senator Clark, of Montana, who was leisurely approaching the entrance.—*The Chicago Record.*

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LETTERS AND ART.

IS CHINESE TO BE THE UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE?

CHILDREN—and some elders—who find the mysteries of English orthography hard to master, will hardly be elated to learn that a recent writer believes Chinese destined to be the universal language of commerce and the professions. Even tho living men may not adopt the tortuous signs of the yellow man, he remarks, our grandchildren may be obliged to learn them. The writer, Mr. Johannes Hrolf Wisby, says (in *Mind*, December, 1900):

"The presence of the allied forces in China may ultimately prove to be the lever that will launch the Chinese language into our very schools as part of the curriculum. When nations wage war upon one another, they generally manage to learn from one another as well, and the scientists accompanying the allied forces in China are already recommending the idea, in despatches to their respective governments, that written Chinese be adopted, experimentally at least, as a professional and business language. Everywhere these men went in China they were astounded by the fact that the people of the various provinces, altho incapable of understanding one another verbally, were able to communicate with ease and accuracy in writing. As this condition is exactly opposite to those governing in Europe, where the people are bunched off, as it were, in dialect districts, and where no uniformly intelligible code exists, these men began to examine into the merits of the Chinese tongue. They seem convinced that it is the most practical language in the world, and better suited for universal adoption than any other. They are not anxious to have it replace existing languages, but they recommend it as an international vehicle of business correspondence. We are not to write poetry in Chinese, nor to have our daily or periodical press infested with the 'crow's feet' of the yellow man; but the typewriting-machines that our grandchildren may use are likely to have Chinese characters, and our business letters and advertising may, to a large extent, have to be written according to the method used by Confucius.

"The idea is as simple as it is natural. The only thing that must be overcome, before it will work its way through Western civilization, is prejudice. There is a widespread superstition that Chinese is an extremely hard language to learn, and the appalling obstacle is vociferously tooted in our ears that the alphabet consists of 'no less and perhaps more than 50,000 characters.' As a matter of fact, Chinese being a symbolic tongue has no alphabet; and as long as no attempt to pronounce it is made, the written language is by no means difficult to learn. The phonetic or spoken language is, however, so variable, and so cut up into dialectic phrases—each province in China, and there are eighteen, having its own vernacular—that very few people, even among the most learned mandarins, ever acquire a mastery over them. A Peking scholar has about as much, or as little, chance of understanding a farmer in the Yun-nan province as a London dandy has of understanding a Welsh miner; but, when it comes to writing, the startling fact develops that while the miner and the dandy would not be able to make themselves mutually understood, the Chinese farmer and the scholar comprehend each other perfectly.

"All other languages, if let alone, deteriorate or develop with comparative quickness and become a barrier, through branching out into dialects, rather than a medium of intercourse between the nations. Chinese is the only language, possibly with the exception of the almost prehistoric Egyptian, that may be regarded as fully developed, in that it never changes, but draws the people together around a common standard of symbolic meaning that carries the same significance to-day as it did over two thousand years before Christ. Take English—undoubtedly one of the most perfectly developed of the so-called civilized tongues: what a pitiably inconstant, changeable, and utterly unreliable medium of expression it is! Since Chaucer it has changed so that the ordinary reader of to-day finds it a task to pick his way to the meaning of phrases and combinations that were perfectly intelligible a couple of centuries ago. Linguistic research shows us that while modern languages, and they are all phonetic, undergo perceptible, and sometimes confusing, changes every century, Chinese, which is the only truly symbolic language surviving, is also the only language incapable of being changed by time.

"Then what is the radical difference between the tongue of the Celestials and the speech of the rest of the world? A nutshell explanation will do. Language, all over the world, except in China, is phonetic, and relies for the creation of the words upon various combinations of a few elementary signs, arranged in the order of an alphabet. The chief disadvantage of this system is that since the writing follows the sound, and the sound of speech is constantly changing, the written language changes as well. The Chinese method is best illustrated by an example. If you take up a city directory in Germany, you will notice at intervals certain little cuts with numbers representing telephone-receivers. They arrest your attention, but you do not have to speculate long before you guess that the cuts signify which parties have telephones and the number you must ask for if you wish to call any one up. That's Chinese! Instead of explaining that this and that and the other man has telephone connection, a drawing, a cut, a *symbol* telling the same tale, is substituted. The index finger on sign-boards saying 'This way,' the maritime-flag signal code, the characters employed in mathematics, in natural philosophy, in astronomy, in geodesy, and in many other branches of science, are really Chinese forms of communicating ideas—so far as they are strictly symbolic, fixed signs with a fixed, unmistakable, unchangeable meaning. When you write that 2 and 2 make 4, this is phonetic writing; when you write $2 + 2 = 4$, this is symbolic writing. The brevity and clearness of this are evident. Mathematics is only a species of sign-writing; and in this fact we find the secret reason why Chinese scholars are so fond of algebra and geometry, and why they make such pronounced success of their studies in this field. There can be no doubt that much of the progress made in the mathematical sciences of late years has been rendered feasible by the adoption of carefully selected symbols; or, in other words, by the adoption of the same methods as China has been using for thousands of years. Complicated trains of reasoning and calculation, such as, for instance, in chemistry, are presented to the mind *en bloc* by a few arbitrary signs, and are comprehended at a glance—as the character of a landscape is gleaned in the twinkle of an eye. When we write c. o. d. on a package, or f. o. b. on a bill of lading; when we write '$' instead of 'dollar,' and a hundred other characters, we are virtually acknowledging the superiority of the Chinese method. And when the Londoners write 'Charing X' instead of Charing Cross, the Norwegians 'Xania' for Christiania, and Christmas is spelled by all Anglo-Saxon peoples 'Xmas' for brevity, it only demonstrates the world-wide want of a symbolic language."

There would be nothing, says the writer, to hinder New York, London, and Paris from at once introducing the use of Chinese characters in cable despatches and in the law, medical, and mechanical courses of the various colleges. Latin and the "hideous" Volapük failed, he says, because they had no national basis or because a phonetic tongue offers no guaranty of permanency or unity of meaning. "But a symbolic language never changes. It remains forever a unifying influence. As long as the idea to be expressed remains the same, it is expressed in the same way. The symbol expresses an idea quite apart from the spoken utterance of that idea. In other words, we may benefit by the advantages of written Chinese without ever bothering about pronouncing it."

Joseph Conrad: a New English Writer of Sea Stories.—Mr. Joseph Conrad, altho already well known in England by his "Nigger of the Narcissus" and other stories, is comparatively unknown in this country. Mr. William L. Alden, the London literary correspondent of the New York *Times*, makes some surprising statements about Mr. Conrad's latest book, "Lord Jim." He calls it a work of "superb genius," and says that "the book ought to place Mr. Conrad at the head of all English short-story writers with the solitary exception of Mr. Kipling." "It is a phenomenon," he adds, "almost as strange

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as the author himself—the man who spent a lifetime at sea, dealing with the roughest phases of life, and living almost wholly without books, and then suddenly showing himself to be one of the most striking writers known to English literature." In similar vein Mr. Alden continues (in the New York *Times*, December 1):

"It is hardly a novel, for it lacks the essential form. In fact, it does not pretend to be anything of the sort. It is simply a story told by one man to a circle of friends—the story of a sailor who made a ruinous mistake.

"'Lord Jim' is a great book, a wonderful book, a magnificent book. I fear to praise it as it deserves, for, if I could do it, I should be thought by most people to have fallen into the deepest mire of 'gush.' But I venture to say that no book like it has ever before been published in the English language. That does not, of course, mean that greater books have not been published. But 'Lord Jim' stands alone. I can recall nothing that can properly be placed in comparison with it. It is the fruition of the blossom that we saw in 'The Nigger of the Narcissus' and 'The Outcast of the Islands'; but, admirable as those books were, Mr. Conrad has this time left them nearly out of sight."

A PUBLISHER'S DEFENSE OF THE CONTEMPORARY NOVEL.

FOR some time an animated discussion has been going on in England over the merits and demerits of the novel of to-day, which, as we have already pointed out, is more and more crowding serious works to the wall. So largely does the novel dominate the book-market in England that Mr. George Allen, a publisher who has hitherto brought out other kinds of literature than fiction, announces that hereafter he will make a regular business of novel-publishing. Partly in defense of his course, he writes an article in the London *Outlook*. He does not agree with those who believe the novel to be deteriorating. He says:

"How is it, if the novel is deteriorating, that publishers of good standing, caring something, as the latest *Outlook* leader on the subject implies they do, for literature and reputation, ally themselves with the personal purveyors of rubbish for the lower multitudes? If I say, in answer to this question, that I think the novel has not deteriorated, I prepare the way for a justification of my individual action; but that is hardly of sufficient interest or importance to warrant this intrusion upon valuable space. I have the advantage over some others who are taking part in this discussion in being able to consult a retentive memory. If *The Outlook* cries 'Shame!' on the generation of Marie Corelli, may not I invoke the shade of Martin Tupper? True, the proverbial philosopher was not a novelist. But in both cases we have precisely the same phenomenon—the greedy exploitation of rubbish resulting in large financial success, followed by immense agitation amongst the reading public—agitation so universal that for a time criticism itself is confounded; for, as *The Outlook* is careful to point out, success carries all before it. But is that all? Consult experience. The noise is made, but it dies away again. The Martin Tupper to whose name I appealed is only a type. The generation for which he wrote was also the generation of many great poets and great novelists. They stand: the rest pass."

The publisher of to-day, says Mr. Allen, must offer his work to all classes, yet at the same time he should so far as possible adhere to the principle of encouraging the relatively good workman. Concerning some of the intimate and important relations which the publishing business bears to literary development, he says:

"A publisher of my acquaintance, loving the good, decided to issue some time since a minor classic—a work of fiction. He resolved to give it a worthy and an artistic form, and on the expenditure necessary to secure this he lavished a sum of twelve hundred pounds. Commercially, he made a mistake; artistically, he did a good work. He does not regret it. But he is resolved to be more careful in future. Such things, repeated, lead obviously enough to ruin. What is the alternative? Never to venture anything for that smaller public? By no means. He must appeal to all publics; and then, by the doctrine of compensation, he may be able again to indulge in costly and beautiful experiments. It is even so with the modern novel. By catering for all publics he may eventually be able to encourage the good writer in whom he believes: the writer who comes slowly to the front, the man who by dint of perseverance and hard work gradually, by his publisher's aid, gains the place to which he is entitled. If I appeal to the smaller class only, it is useless to think of helping that man. And yet *The Outlook's* plea for severer criticism, if effective, will make any task more difficult. Surely it would be a saner thing to admit the publisher's difficulty by judging the books issued according to the standard, low or high, for which, whatever the authors may think, the publisher knows they are adjusted; or must the publisher himself label his novels? . . . . . .

"No publisher will complain if any journal will take his books for what they are, even if it should become necessary to rule out some types of novel altogether from all consideration. The critic's task, in fact, is comparatively easy, and yet, as you admit, the power of the purse and the pressure of the market make him fail in performing it. The publisher is in a very different position, and a far harder one. He must, as I said, supply all classes. As long as the illiterate exist he must take heed of them; otherwise the very word *publisher* is a misnomer.

"The remedy? Crush the illiterate, and all those for whom that rough-and-ready term can be made to stand. But that is a matter for you educationalists to settle. When you have settled it, publishers like myself will have occasion to bless you."

A NEGLECTED AMERICAN POET.

ALTHO most poets suffer a period of neglect in their earlier years, it is not often that a genuine poet remains almost wholly unrecognized by the public during his whole lifetime. Such appears to have been the fate of Ellery Channing, who is a nephew of the great Boston preacher of the same name, and who, tho still living, published his first volume of poems five years before Emerson's first volume appeared. As early as 1849 Thoreau, in alluding to Channing's home on the Concord, wrote of him:

"There
A poet wise has settled, whose fine ray
Doth often shine on Concord's twilight day;
Like those first stars, whose silver beams on high
Most travelers can not at first descry,
But eyes that wont to range the evening sky."

"It was a true verdict," writes Mr. F. B. Sanborn, in *The Atlantic Monthly* (December); "very few were the contemporaries who recognized the poetic radiance of Channing's genius, rare and fitful, but permanent, and winning greater attention now than when, more than half a century ago, his first book of poems was published, and commanded the praise of Emerson in *The Dial* and *The Democratic Review*." Mr. Sanborn, who was himself a friend of the chief writers of the Concord school, and has written biographies of his fellow townsmen Emerson, Thoreau, and Alcott, gives an interesting sketch of Channing's life and genius. He writes:

"Born in November, 1818, sixteen months later than Thoreau, and entering Harvard College a year after (in 1834), his first published poem ('The Spider') appeared in 1835, and he was as early a contributor to the famous *Dial* as Thoreau. His papers there were almost as many as Thoreau's, and he had printed three volumes of verse and one of prose ('Conversations in Rome,' 1847) when the first of Thoreau's two books, the 'Week,' came out in 1849. Be it remembered, for the encouragement of unread authors, that of the dozen or twenty volumes now maintaining the credit of Thoreau, the poet-naturalist himself published only two, of which the second alone, 'Walden,' paid for itself during his lifetime. Since 1850, Channing has published four more volumes of verse and one of prose: 'Near Home,' in 1858; 'The Wanderer,' in 1871; 'Life of Thoreau,' in 1873; and in 1885 and 1886, two single poems, 'Eliot' and 'John Brown.'

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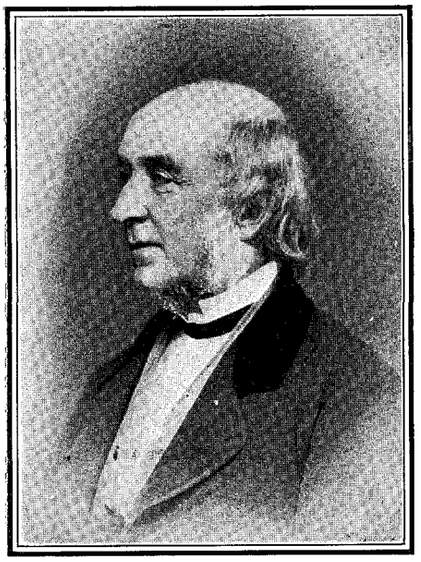
The last is a dramatic poem, quite different from the verses which the author contributed to Mr. Orcutt's 'History of Torrington,' the birthplace of Brown, and introduces the visit made by Mrs. Ellen Russell, a daughter of Father Taylor, to the hero of Harper's Ferry in his Virginia prison. . . . . .

After a journey to the Far West, Mr. Channing came eastward in 1840.

"In 1842 he returned to his native region, and not long after took up his residence in Concord, where he has now mainly lived for nearly sixty years. In the interval he visited the Mediterranean and Italy; traversed New England, Eastern New York, and Canada with Thoreau; helped Horace Greeley edit the New York *Tribune* in its earlier years; ten years later edited the New Bedford *Mercury*, and formed the acquaintance of Thoreau's friends there, the Ricketson family. In all these wanderings and residences his artist eye was constantly seeking out the finest landscapes, and his sauntering habit was to take his friends thither and introduce them to scenery they could hardly have found for themselves. He showed Hawthorne the loveliest recesses of the Concord woods, and of the two rivers that course slowly through them; he preceded Thoreau at Yarmouth and Truro and the Highland shore of Cape Cod; and he even taught Emerson the intimate charm of regions in Concord and Sudbury which he, the older resident and unwearied walker, had never beheld. 'In walking with Ellery,' he wrote in 1848, 'you shall always see what was never before shown to the eye of man.'"



WILLIAM ELLERY CHANNING.

In the following poem, entitled "The Lonely Road," Channing refers, says Mr. Sanborn, to the old road "winding among forests and orchards of that long-abandoned farm in Concord, near whose entrance stood Thoreau's cabin, after its removal miles away from the shores of Walden":

No track had worn the lone, deserted road,
Save where the Fox had leapt from wall to wall;
There were the swelling, glittering piles of snow;
We strayed along,—beneath our feet the lane
Creaked at each pace. . . . . .
Some scraggy orchards hem the landscape round,
A forest of sad apple-trees unpruned;
And then a newer orchard,—pet of him
Who in his dotage kept this lonely place:
In this wild scene, this shut-in orchard dell,
Men like ourselves once dwelt by roaring fires,—
Loved this still spot, nor had a further wish.

A little wall, half falling, bounds a square
Where choicer fruit-trees showed a garden's pride,—
Now crimsoned by the Sumach, whose red cones
Displace the colors of the cultured growth.
I people the void scene with Fancy's eye,
And think of childish voices,—or that kind
Caressing hands of tender parents gone
Have twined themselves in soft and golden hair,—
All fled,—and silent as an unlit cave.

A long farewell, thou dim and silent spot!
Where serious winter sleeps,—or the soft hour
Of some half-dreamy autumn afternoon:
And may no idle feet tread thy domain,
But only men to contemplation vowed,—
Still as ourselves,—creators of the Past!

The neglect which has attended his works Mr. Sanborn attributes—as did Emerson—to an apparently wilful unmelodiousness of verse. "With all this," says the writer, "conscious of his unmerited fortune among American authors, Ellery Channing has yet lived his fourscore years in the light of his own adjuration of the ideal poet:

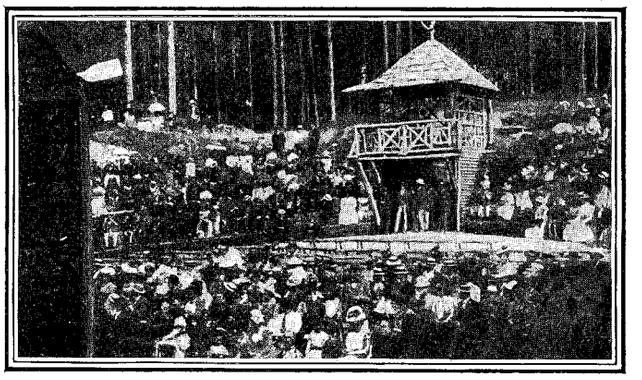
So let him stand, resigned to his estate!
Kings can not compass it, nor nobles have;
They are the children of some handsome fate,—
He of himself is beautiful and brave.

OPEN-AIR THEATERS OF THE VOSGES.

FIVE years ago, a certain Maurice Pettecher, who is described as "a man of letters with the soul of an artist," became convinced that the miracle plays and satirical dramas (*soties*) of the Middle Ages had gained rather than lost in effectiveness by being performed by improvised actors. The continued success of the Ober-Ammergau Passion Play confirmed him in this view, and one fine day in Bussang, a little French town of 2,000 inhabitants, he got a few people together to play a drama which he had hastily written. His idea was to revive the traditional popular theater whose essential function, in his own words, is "to unite in a common sentiment, to animate with a common inspiration, without distinction of class, wealth, or environment, all the minds of a given region, large or small." The story of his effort and the result is told by Léon Abric in the *Revue Illustrée* (Paris, November 15), from which we quote:

"The company consisted of an old servant, some college boys, a manufacturer, and a lawyer. All accepted the invitation, but without enthusiasm. As soon as the rehearsals were under way, however, these good people began to take themselves very seriously and attended very carefully to their gestures and the modulation of their voices. At the first performance, on an improvised stage with green trees for side-scenes and the mountains for background, the verdict of the audience was that 'the thing isn't half bad,' and their laughter and their tears appeared in the right places.

"The theater developed rapidly. The company was increased by the addition of shopkeepers from the village and workmen from the Pettecher factory. Every year a new piece is presented. The rehearsals usually begin in June and take place every evening after working-hours. The writer was present at one of them



THE AUDITORIUM AT BUSSANG.

and was surprised by the sincerity and enthusiasm of the actors. . . . To be sure, the local accent resisted all the instructor's efforts; but it lends an additional charm, and enhances the local color, for the action of all the plays occurs in Lorraine. The costumes, which were amusingly picturesque, were made by local seamstresses after Madame Pettecher's designs, and the scenes were painted by local artists whose intentions, at least, were good.

"The troupe has been in existence five years and has had no

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internal dissensions. The actors never complain that their names appear neither on programs nor placards.

"The playwright has sought to give each of his pieces a moral as well as local color. In some he satirizes and ridicules local superstitions; in one he combats alcoholism; the interest of others is purely literary. All are written with careful and artistic simplicity so that their lessons may be appreciated by the most uncultivated of the audience."

The scenery and the accessories, M. Abric goes on to say, are the "real thing" whenever possible. The side-scenes consist of living trees, the actors walk on real turf, and for country scenes the curtain is removed entirely and the bright meadows and dark pine forests of the Vosges become visible. While the play is thus conducted in the open air, there are three covered galleries with seats for 2,000 spectators, and abundant standing-room in front of these is protected by an awning from sun and rain.

Inspired by this success at Bussang, three residents of Gérardmer, near by, established a popular theater at that picturesque place. The auditorium consists of level meadow surrounded by terraces. Here also most of the plays are performed by a troupe made up of local talent. At still another place, Menil-eu-Xaintos, the contagion has spread, the originator here being the Abbé Meignien, and the play being always the same—"The Mystery of Joan of Arc"—full of pious candor and naive devotion. Here also the players are natives of the district, and all "give evidence of praiseworthy conviction." This is the best attended theater of the three, pilgrimages being made to it and special trains carrying constantly increasing crowds. Similar theaters are also to be found in Brittany and Provence.

Of the plays themselves, M. Abric writes:

"The spectator carries away from them a most delightful impression of novelty and simplicity. To enjoy them thoroughly, however, he must forget that he has ever attended a theater. He must leave his cheap sarcasm and skepticism at home and come with the soul of a child. The spirit of the boulevards is out of place among these picturesque mountains. Nature is in command and ridicule loses its power."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE RETURN OF ROMANCE IN LITERATURE.

MR. MAURICE F. EGAN, professor of English literature in the Catholic University at Washington, views the contending claims of realism and of romance in fiction from a standpoint directly opposed to that of Mr. W. D. Howells, from whose article on "The New Historical Romances" we lately quoted. Dr. Egan is a romanticist, a believer in faith and intuition, not as opposed to reason and analysis, but as the masters and interpreters of them. The spirit of romance, which is the product of man's intuitional and spiritual nature moving over the waters of life and recreating them in the vision of faith, ebbs and flows, he says, as these higher elements in his soul assert themselves strongly at different periods, or in other periods lie quiescent while the lower rationalizing and materializing conceptions of life temporarily are in the ascendant. The latter half of the nineteenth century has been a period of spiritual obscuration, and material conceptions of all kinds momentarily triumphed. In the realm of philosophy we had materialism, and agnosticism, which is a belief that the spirit of man is not strong enough to see through the veils of matter and answer for itself the great questions of human destiny. In the realm of letters we had the naturalistic school, which, like physical science, merely sees what the eye can see or what can be analyzed in the retort. Now, however, in both realms, Dr. Egan sees an incoming wave of spiritual vibrations; and he dwells with pleasure on the fact that on its crest are many good things. Writing in *The Catholic University Bulletin*, he says of the realistic and of the new conception of art and life:

"Realism itself could not escape analysis; the newer man wanted to dry it as the chemist does alcohol. Every drop of water must disappear. And then the Darwinian movement was affecting life. Realism, after all, can not escape being synthetical, since even the most scientific of the new school were forced to call in the aid of imagination. Here was the difficulty. Besides, Balzac—even the all-seeing Balzac—hesitated to say some things; Flaubert had his reserves. The movement of realism was hampered by prudery, and it was not sufficiently 'scientific.' Zola, instead of being the founder of a school, is the beginning and the end of an illogical attempt in literature to dig around the roots of animal life in search of the monstrous grubs that infest them. The naturalistic-scientific movement somewhat affected Matilde Serao in Italy and the clever Spanish novelists, among whom are Galdós and Madame Pardo-Bazan. In England it touched George Moore. In Russia it influenced Tolstoy and Dostoyeffsky. It has had no permanent effect, except upon D'Annunzio, who may call himself a pathological criminologist of the scientific-naturalist school. Literature, one sees, has for some time been forging checks upon the Bank of Science just as that bank was engaged in playing the same game with the Bank of Theology.

"In English-speaking countries the scientific-realistic movement has spent its force. Reverence and mysticism are coming into vogue again, and with them the romance. A man who does not to-day assume that he would like to believe, if he could, is as much out of the fashion as the man who doubted Spencer or Huxley twenty-five years ago. And the more you believe, the more you are in the current of the stream. It is the old motion of the pendulum. Therefore the romance is king. Poetry is even coming into vogue; the poets are struggling out of their twilight, and it will soon be day for them. Everybody who is rich looks around for ideals, and everybody who is not rich hopes to acquire some as soon as he can afford to keep them."

NOTES.

THE marriage of Miss Mary E. Wilkins to Dr. Charles Freeman, of Metuchen, N. J., has been postponed in order to allow her to finish her new story, "The Lion's Share."

THE misquotation of book titles by the public library reader is a perennial source of amusement to the bookman. Following are some of the latest calls for books at a Western library:

Account of Monte Cristo. Acrost the Kontinent by Boles. Bula. Count of Corpus Cristy. Dant's Infernal Comedy. Darwin's Descent on man. Feminine Cooper's works. Infeleese. Less Miserable. Some of Macbeth's writings. Something in the way of friction. Squeal to a book.

The following lines by Arthur Sherburne Hardy are quoted by *Unity* (Chicago), anent the recent debates as to what is the real teaching of the Rubáiyát:

ON A FLY-LEAF OF OMAR.

Deem not this book a creed; 'tis but the cry
Of one who fears not death, but would not die,
Who at the table feigns with sorry jest
To love the wine the Master's hand has pres't—
The while he loves the absent Master best—
The bitter cry of Love for Love's reply.

THE report of educational progress in Porto Rico is most encouraging. When the Hon. M. G. Brumbaugh, the commissioner of education for the island, took charge in San Juan on March 6, 1900, the only schools were those held in rented rooms, many of which had no floors, desks, or sanitary arrangement of any sort. The teachers were notoriously incompetent, and educational advantages were open to only a small number of children. Of the new conditions the New York *Mail and Express* says: "According to the commissioner's data, there were in Porto Rico on October 1, 800 schools with 38,000 pupils, an increase of 180 schools and 9,000 pupils within the ten weeks after his arrival. These results, however, he says, are but the beginning of the educational system which the people need and desire. There are 300,000 children of school age for whom no training can be provided under available appropriations. Every school in the island has its full quota of pupils; hundreds of applicants are turned away for lack of room and teachers."

THE death of Mrs. Abby Sage Richardson in Rome, at the age of sixty-three, calls attention to a remarkable woman, who in her heroic career brings to mind Mrs. Oliphant. Left at the age of hardly more than twenty—through a painful tragedy—with two children, she supported herself and them with her pen and by lectures, in the mean time pursuing studies in Elizabethan literature, Anglo-Saxon, and other literary subjects. From the time when she was left apparently helpless by the cruelty of one man and the death of another, she lived wholly by her own exertions, and later gave her sons the benefit of higher education and foreign travel. She will be best remembered through her "Old English Poetry," "Familiar Talks in English Literature," "Abelard and Heloise," and "Old Love-Letters." Her youngest son, Mr. William Sage, is author of "Robert Tourney," one of the successful novels of the past year. Mrs. Richardson also wrote, in collaboration with Miss Grace Furniss, "The Colonial Girl," and "The Pride of Jennico," besides other plays.

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SCIENCE AND INVENTION.

PRESENT STATUS OF THE EVOLUTIONARY THEORY.

"THE crowning achievement of the nineteenth century"—this is what the Darwinian theory of natural selection is called by one who shared with Darwin the establishment of that theory and who has long been one of its chief expositors and popularizers. Alfred Russell Wallace, in the first of a series of articles on the history of the "passing century," now appearing in a syndicate of newspapers, makes this assertion at the conclusion of a review of the rise, progress, and present status of the doctrine of organic evolution. Dr. Wallace first tells us that most of the objections made to theories of evolution, and especially to those that deal with living organisms, rest upon misconception of what any such theory can possibly explain. He says:

"Evolution, as a general principle, implies that all things in the universe as we see them have arisen from other things which preceded them by a process of modification, under the action of those all-pervading but mysterious agencies known to us as 'natural forces,' or more generally the 'laws of nature.' More particularly the term evolution implies that the process is an 'unrolling' or 'unfolding,' derived probably from the way in which leaves and flowers are usually rolled up or crumpled up in the bud and grow into their perfect form by unrolling or unfolding. Insects in the pupa and vertebrates in the embryo exhibit a somewhat similar condition of folding, and the word is therefore very applicable to an extensive range of phenomena; but it must not be taken as universally applicable, since in the material world there are other modes of orderly change under natural laws to which the terms development or evolution are equally applicable. The 'continuity' of physical phenomena as illustrated by the late Sir William Grove in 1866 has the same general meaning; but evolution implies more than mere continuity or succession—something like growth or definite change from form to form under the action of unchangeable laws.

"The point especially to be noted here is, that evolution, even if it is essentially a true and complete theory of the universe, can explain only the existing conditions of nature by showing that it has been derived from some preexisting condition through the action of known forces and laws. It may also show the high probability of a similar derivation from a still earlier condition; but the farther back we go the more uncertain must be our conclusions, while we can never make any real approach to the absolute beginnings of things. Herbert Spencer, and many other thinkers before him, have shown that if we try to realize the absolute nature of the simplest phenomena, we are inevitably landed either in a contradiction or in some unthinkable proposition. Thus, suppose we ask—Is matter infinitely divisible or is it not? If we say it is, we can not think it out, since all infinity, however it may be stated in words, is really unthinkable.

"If we say there is a limit—the ultimate atom—then, as all size is comparative, we can imagine a being to whom this atom seems as large as an apple or even a house does to us; and we then find it quite unthinkable that this mass of matter should be in its nature absolutely indivisible even by an infinite force. It follows that all explanations of phenomena can only be partial explanations. They can inform us of the last change or the last series of changes which brought about the actual conditions now existing, and they can often enable us to predict future changes to a limited extent; but both the infinite past and the remote future are alike beyond our powers. Yet the explanations that the theory of evolution gives us are none the less real and none the less important, especially when we compare its teachings with the wild guesses or the total ignorance of the thinkers of earlier ages."

A large part of Dr. Wallace's review is taken up with a recital of earlier attempts at evolutionary theory, such as those of the ancients, and, in modern times, those of Buffon, Goethe, and Lamarck. Darwin's announcement of the principle of natural selection by survival of the fittest he regards as the crown of all these. He sums the matter up thus:

"Altho the philosophical writers of classical times obtained a few glimpses of the action of law in nature regulating its successive changes, nothing satisfactory could be effected till the actual facts had been better ascertained by the whole body of workers who, during the last five centuries, have penetrated ever more and more deeply into nature's mysteries and laws. By their labors we became possessed of such a body of carefully observed facts that, toward the end of the last century, such thinkers as Laplace and Hutton were enabled to give us the first rudiments of theories of evolution as applied to the solar system and the earth's crust, both of which have been greatly developed and rendered more secure during the century now passing away.

"In like manner Buffon and Goethe may be said to have started the idea of organic evolution, more systematically treated a little later by Lamarck, but still without any discovery of laws adequate to produce the results we see everywhere in nature. The subject then languished till, after twenty years of observation and research, Charles Darwin produced a work which at once satisfied many thinkers that the long-desired clew had been discovered. Its acceptance by almost the whole scientific world soon followed; it threw new light on almost every branch of research, and it will probably take its place, in the opinion of future generations, as the crowning achievement of the nineteenth century."

Objections and difficulties brought up by critics of the theory have, Dr. Wallace thinks, been fully answered, and it remains the last word of science on the vexed problem of the world's origin. To quote the author's final summary:

"This theory of natural selection—meaning the elimination of the least fit and therefore the ultimate 'survival of the fittest'—has furnished a rational and precise explanation of the means of adaptation of all existing organisms to their conditions, and therefore of their transformation from the series of distinct but allied species which occupied the earth at some preceding epoch. In this sense it has actually demonstrated the 'origin of species,' and, by carrying back this process step by step into earlier and earlier geological times, we are able mentally to follow out the evolution of all forms of life from one or a few primordial forms. Natural selection has thus supplied that motive power of change and adaptation that was wanting in all earlier attempts at explanation, and this has led to its very general acceptance both by naturalists and by the great majority of thinkers and men of science."

SALT AS A HEART STIMULANT.

THE discovery of the "elixir of life" by two professors in the University of Chicago is announced in large headlines by the sensational section of the daily press. Not only so, but we are told that the said elixir is so familiar a substance as common salt, which most of us have used more or less regularly without a thought that we were absorbing so potent a stimulant. This version of their investigation the Chicago scientists—Professors Loeb and Lingle—repudiate with some indignation, and apparently with reason, for the pamphlet in which they explain their results treats simply of some experiments confirmatory of the theory already advanced by several physiologists, that the origin of the heart's rhythmic beat must be sought among the inorganic constituents of the blood. Says Professor Lingle in the pamphlet already referred to:

"The latest theory to explain this action has been advanced by Howell, who holds that to produce rhythmic contractions in heart tissue the interaction of three salts is necessary—sodium chlorid to maintain pressure, calcium salts to produce tone and act as the real excitant, and potassium salts to cause relaxation and neutralize the excessive stimulating action of the calcium salts.

"The idea of the rhythmic activity of the heart being a function of the inorganic salts of the blood is indirectly supported by some work by Professor Loeb. He has shown that rhythmic contraction can be produced at will in the striped muscle of the frog by the action of a single salt solution, thus contradicting Biedermann's theory that a mixture of salts is necessary."

Professor Loeb's theories have also been tested by his col-

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league in experiments on turtles, in which he gave especial attention to the following three points:

"First—Will ventricular tissue beat rhythmically in solutions of non-conductors; or, in other words, is rhythmic activity an ion effect in heart muscle [an ion is a chemical element as it exists in a solution decomposable by an electric current]?

"Second—If the stimulus of this rhythmical activity is an ion, is it the calcium or sodium ion?

"Third—What is the rôle of other ions with respect to ventricular rhythmic activity?"

Says the correspondent of the New York *Sun* in describing these experiments further:

"Professor Lingle found that hearts would not begin to beat or maintain rhythmic beats in solutions of non-conductors. To test this a series of experiments was made with solutions of cane-sugar, dextrose, and glycerin. The fact that no rhythm was developed in these solutions, Professor Lingle says, proves Professor Loeb's conclusions that rhythmic activity occurs only in solutions of electrolytes and is, therefore, an ion effect.

"Professor Loeb maintains that the stimulus is most closely associated with the sodium compounds, or, rather, with the sodium ion. The calcium and potassium salts simply prolong the rhythm and improve it by their ability to neutralize the injurious effects of too much or too extended action of sodium. Professor Loeb has studied separately and together the action on heart tissue of the three ions, sodium, calcium, and potassium, and finds that while the other ions may start heart action, the sodium ion is the only one which will maintain it."

THE SUN AS A FAMINE PROPHET.

NUMEROUS attempts have been made to connect sun-spots with terrestrial events. Not to mention all sorts of astrological theories, with which we need not concern ourselves, most of these attempts relate to supposed influence of the spots on the weather, and are related to the now well-known eleven-year "sun-spot period," which was long ago shown to correspond with a similar cycle in the earth's magnetic condition. Added to this correspondence, the observation that the appearance of a large sun-spot is often accompanied by a violent magnetic disturbance left little doubt that these phenomena are related, at any rate, to the earth's magnetic condition, whether the connection goes any farther or not. More than twenty years ago Sir Norman Lockyer and the late Sir William Hunter undertook an investigation of the records of sun-spots, magnetic storms, cyclones, and rainfall, especially with regard to India, from which they drew the following conclusion:

"That the eleven years' cycle in terrestrial magnetism has a direct and important influence upon telegraphic enterprise; that the cycle of wind disturbances produces direct results upon the percentages of casualties among the shipping of the world, and that the cycle of tropical rainfall has a portentous coincidence with a cycle of famine in India."

All these cycles were found to be coincident with that of the sun-spots. These conclusions were not accepted by the whole scientific world. Nevertheless, Sir Norman, who is the only surviving member of the scientific partnership just mentioned, read before the Royal Society in November last a paper that carries his conclusions much farther, at least so far as India is concerned. Says the Manchester *Guardian* (November 26) in an editorial account of the paper:

"Spectroscopic study of the spots has shown certain abnormalities in the light which they send us—for they are but relatively dark—to be accompanied by irregularities in the Indian rainfall. A study of climatic variations during the past century has shown that India has 'two pulses of rainfall, one near the maximum and the other near the minimum of the sun-spot period.' All the famines of the past fifty years have occurred in the intervals between these two 'pulses.' Why it should be so is easy to perceive; the 'pulses' are limited in extent, and during the intervals between them the quantity of rain falling in India ceases to be sufficient for agriculture, which in that teeming land is pushed up to the limit possible in good years. The inference is that the likelihood of famine in India recurs in cycles of eleven years, and our records actually show that this has been the case. Thus 1880 and 1891, 1885–86 and 1896–97 have been notable years of famine, or at least—for the theory is not mathematically rigid—have been closely followed by famines for which they prepared by drought. It is clear that if we can thus be aware in advance of the probable failure of the Indian crops it will help us to provide against the ensuing famine. In that way Sir Norman Lockyer's research may be of incalculable value if further experience confirms its results, tho we must still bear in mind Mr. Abercromby's warning that, tho there are strong grounds for the belief in a connection between sun-spots and weather, yet 'from the nature of atmospheric circulation we are unable to utilize this fact in forecasting weather, either for any season or for any day.' Before we are able to carry the business so far years of investigation will have to pass. In the mean time we are reasonably sure of the interesting fact that the same power which tears the sun's photosphere into flaming craters alters the price of bread in our markets and fills our skies with the brandished streamers of the aurora."

Sir Norman is reported by *The Westminster Gazette* as fairly confident of being able in four or five years to localize the exact province or district in which severe drought will take place. It says:

"Nor will India alone gain by this notable discovery. Famine years in India are generally years of low flood in Egypt, and having obtained the law followed by the former the scientists have been able to arrive at that governing the Nile valley. In a word, a limitless vista of possibilities is opened up. And the initial results have been achieved mainly by taking photographs of the sun daily!

"'Faraday toyed with a needle,' remarked Sir Norman, with a twinkle in his eye, 'and they laughed at him; yet he gave us the electric telegraph. The history of science has established the fact that the "*useless*" turns out to be the most *useful* in the end. The man in the street becomes very skeptical when you begin to talk of sun-spots and "prominences" and the effect of both on meteorology; but there will remain perhaps,' added Sir Norman, 'some compensation to science if it can save millions of lives and millions of pounds in India.' . . . . . .

"South Kensington, Sir Norman informed our representative, in conclusion, will be the center for future observations and further developments, and photographs will come there daily from India, Mauritius, and Greenwich. The Royal Society is taking a deep interest in the subject, while the Prime Minister, who has been Secretary for India at one time, and is a personal friend of Sir Norman Lockyer's, is understood to be directly alive to its great possibilities."

It need not be expected, however, that the world of science will be any more nearly unanimous in this matter than it was a score of years ago. Even now protests are heard. One, from an anonymous correspondent of the paper from which we have just quoted, puts the case against Sir Norman's theory fairly well. Says this writer:

"No knowledge of sun-spots and protuberances, however exact, can get over the fact that there is no real correspondence between their changes and the variations of terrestrial weather. In these variations a cyclical order may be roughly discerned. As meteorological study goes on it may be made out more clearly. But in any case nothing can be gained by going from the obscure to the more obscure, and substituting study of a solar cycle not in correspondence for study of the terrestrial cycle which primarily concerns us. . . . . .

"There is no evidence for his assumption that the unknown lines sometimes seen in sun-spots spectra are due to known substances at enormously high temperatures. His own argument compels him to rely upon the fact that such lines are sometimes present and sometimes absent in the spectra of sun-spots otherwise indistinguishable. Sun-spots at the best cover so small an area of the sun's disk that he does not pretend to assign to them any power over terrestrial weather. He assumes that when they

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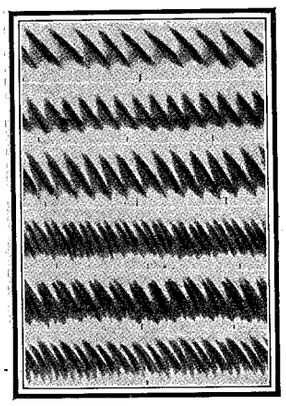
are abnormally hot an immense unspotted area is abnormally hot also. But for this assumption there is not an atom of proof, either experimental or deductive. He told your interviewer that the sun is now 'unusually hot.' But it is as inconceivable that the sun should spontaneously increase his total energy as it is that your paper-weight should sometimes increase its weight from eight ounces to twelve. The proposition is absolutely and diametrically opposed to the fundamental conceptions of physics."

TALKING-MACHINES, ANCIENT AND MODERN.

THE old-fashioned talking-machine, which was an attempt rather than a finished product, was an endeavor to imitate the human voice; the modern talking-machine, the phonograph, reproduces an actual voice. They differ very much as an original painting and a photograph; only, to carry the simile further, the painting in this case was a scarcely recognizable daub, while the photograph is reasonably clear and faithful. Yet for some scientific purposes the original or synthetic method of reproducing and studying the voice is still employed. Of some recent developments of it, M. A. da Cunha writes as follows in *La Nature* (Paris, December 1):



FIGS. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6. — Analytic Flames of Vowel-Formation, I, U, OU, E, D, A (French).

"When the phonograph made its appearance about fifteen years since, it put a stop almost brutally to the labors of a host of inventors who had at once to give up seeking a purely mechanical method of imitating the human voice. This was wrong; for nothing that is connected with the study of our organism should be neglected. Altho some scientists like Helmholtz, Koenig, and Herrmann have continued their studies, the results in general are not known outside their laboratories. It thus seemed to us that it would be interesting to say a few words about the ideas of Dr. Marage, which have led him to the construction of an apparatus that is well thought out and that may be the starting-point for very important applications. This device, which is limited to the production of the vowels, works admirably, and it has the peculiarity that it has been constructed by exactly reversing the whole series of experiments made for the analysis of sounds. It is, then, if not an absolutely perfect apparatus, at least one made on correct mathematical principles. . . . . .

"The apparatus necessary for the analysis of sounds, no matter what method may be employed, consist of a stretched membrane placed at the end of a mouthpiece. On one of the faces of this membrane the air is caused to vibrate by means of sounds, and to the other some system of registration is applied. In general this consists of a very long needle connected to the membrane, and vibrating with it, which traces a curve on a moving sheet of paper.

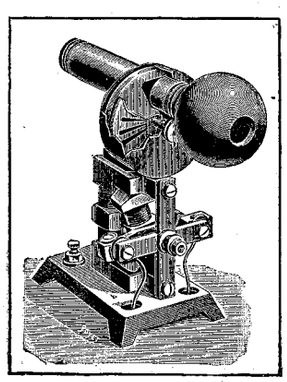
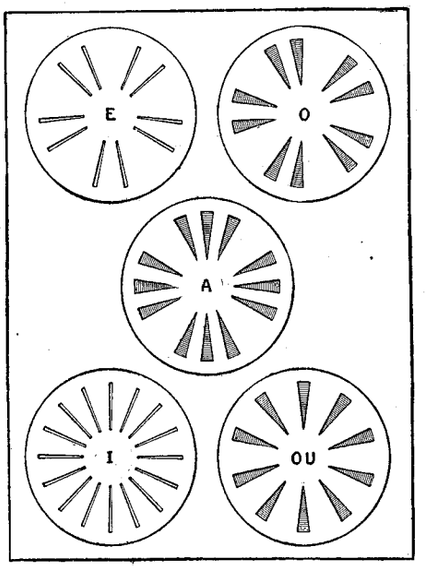


FIG. 7. — "Acouometer," giving standard sound.

M. Marage has constructed a very simple device; its simplicity, in fact, is a great part of his invention. He had showed that the experiments of his predecessors often differed among themselves, and were sometimes confused. The reason of this was that the forms of apparatus employed were defective owing to their different elements. By suppressing these elements, the causes of error were done away with.



FIGS. 8, 9, 10, 11, 12.—Movable Plates for giving different vowels in the "siren."

"In the new machine all annexes not absolutely indispensable are done away with; mouthpieces and conducting-tubes were suppressed; it followed that the vibrations took place in direct contact with the membrane. This was made of stretched india-rubber, a material which is known not to modify the voice in any way. Finally, as a last and important modification, the author changed the registering system completely; in place of using a needle, he caused acetylene gas at constant pressure to be delivered on the inverse side of the membrane. This gas escaped by a tube and was lighted at its extremity. When the membrane vibrated, the pressure of the gas varied and the flame changed in intensity. By receiving the successive images on a moving band of sensitized paper we have a graphic record that gives valuable information about the formation of different sounds.

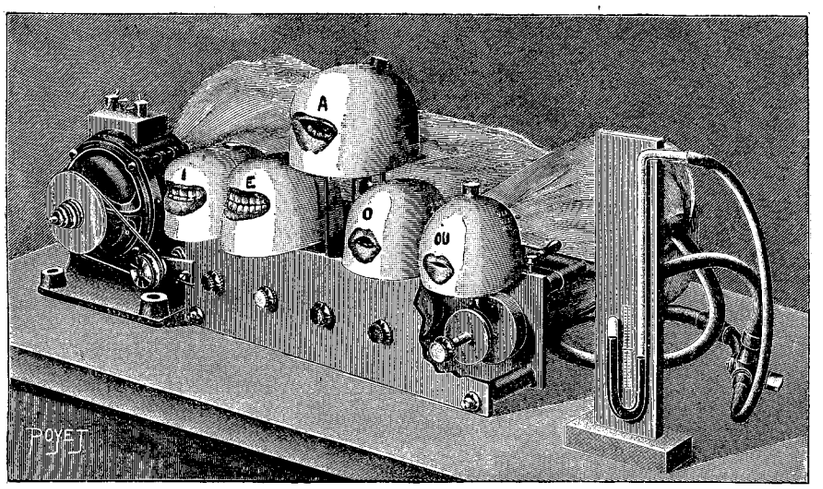


FIG. 13.—Synthetic Apparatus for forming vowel-sounds.

In applying this method to the emission of vowels he proved the following:

"Certain vowels, I, U, OU [in French] are formed by a series of vibrations of different intensity and separation, but regularly spaced; in other words, there exists for these sounds a series of continued and similar vibrations (see Figs. 1, 2, 3). For É and O these vibrations are also regular, but each is formed of two oscillations (Figs. 4 and 5) arranged in a special manner for each. We thus have groups of double vibrations. Finally, in the case of A, these groups have three component vibrations (Fig. 6).

"These observations are not new, for previous experiment by the method of rigid connections had given similar indications. The present investigations, however, not only confirmed these, but had the important advantage of rendering the graphic records clearer, so that they became easier to follow. . . . . .

"M. Marage is not satisfied with the 'siren' for the production

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of the vowels. Not only the larynx, but also the cheeks play an important part in the production of sounds, adding the harmonies that give the voice its character. Other elements also contribute to this special characteristic of the voice whereby that of a particular person is at once recognized; but we can not touch upon them here.

"To give to his apparatus the feature that he considered necessary, M. Marage has been able with Dr. Roussel's aid to reproduce the interior of a person's mouth while he is pronouncing the different vowels, using for this purpose the plastic substance employed by dentists. He fits these reproductions, made in plaster-of-Paris, to sirens giving the appropriate combinations of sounds, and then sets his machine going. . . . As we have seen, this synthetic process is interesting, and altho it has no future before it, so far as reproduction of the human voice is concerned, at least it may have a few useful applications.

"The author proposes to modify the steam sirens used on shipboard so that they will emit the vowel sounds; thus different phonetic signals may be obtained, which may be used to form an international alphabet. Another important application of this synthetic process can be made in the construction of ear-trumpets that will not fatigue the deaf, because they will not modify the grouping of the oscillations adapted to the ear.

"Finally, there has been constructed an 'acouometer,' giving a typical sound (the vowel A, for example), which may be used as a standard to which certain other sounds may be referred (Fig. 7). There will also be a great number of interesting applications in medicine; but we have no space to describe them here."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

The Peanut as a Civilizer in Africa.—The peanut may yet prove the salvation of the African negro. At least so it is asserted by Herr Bernega, of Hanover, who delivered, before the section of pharmacy at the recent Congress of Naturalists at Aix-la-Chapelle (Aachen), a lecture on the products of the German colonies, viewed in their relations to the chemical industries of the mother country. "Among other subjects," says *The National Druggist*, "he touched on the cultivation of *Arachys hypogœa*, or the peanut, in the Kameruns and elsewhere in tropical Africa. While in Dakar (Senegambia) the speaker found that enormous quantities of the nuts were shipped thence, by the Kusfisque and St. Louis railway, to Marseilles, and that the quantity was ever on the increase. The price of the nuts there, in Dakar, was about a shilling a bushel, the latter weighing from 20 to 23 pounds, while in Marseilles they commanded £9 to £10 sterling [$45 to $50] per ton. In 1898 there were shipped, from Bathurst alone, 29,000 tons. The peanut, says the author, is proving an excellent educator of the negro in the paths of agriculture. The 'factories' or trading-posts in the colony give each negro a bushel of nuts, free, as seed, on the condition that he returns four bushels from his crop from the seed. The yield he states, is usually twenty-fold, in good years. The seed is planted at the close of the rainy season (in April-May) and the nuts are dug in November. Enormous crops are made by the natives in the English and Portuguese possessions, and the author urges the German Government to press it in its colonies. The nut yields a delightful oil, which is used, we may remark, in sophistication and imitation of olive oil, and the nut is now one of the cheapest-known sources of albumen. It contains a very large percentage of nitrogenous matter, and constitutes an important ingredient of the concentrated rations issued to the German soldiers on the march."

News by Telephone.—For several years past there has existed at Budapest, Hungary, a so-called telephone-journal, or system of news-distribution by telephone. This received a good deal of notice from the press at the time when it was established in 1893, and it has several times been mentioned in these columns. The German paper *Die Reform*, as quoted in the *Revue Scientifique* (December 8), tells us that the system is still successfully operated. Says this paper: "It is well known that this journal keeps its subscribers in touch with the news by telephone, items of interest being telephoned from the central office to each subscriber from 8 A.M. till 11 P.M. Each communication comes on the hour, except the news of the money market and parliament, which are sent every half-hour. The subscription price is 3.75 francs [75 cents] a month, and the subscriber is not bound for more than four months: he pays nothing extra for receivers or lines. The receiving-apparatus is so arranged that two persons can listen at once, and communications are announced by a prearranged bell-signal. At the end of 1898, the circuit, which is limited to the city of Budapest, had reached 914 kilometers [567 miles] of lines; the present number of subscribers is about 7,000, or eight times those of the first year. Trials have been made, with good results, looking to the extension of the system to the neighboring towns of Szegedin and Arad. *Die Reform* also gives technical details, with figures, of the mode of installation of the system and of the arrangements used for the telephonic transmission of the news."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

Inoculation for Malaria.—In a recent number of a German medical weekly, as quoted in the New York *Staats-Zeitung*, Dr. Sander, of Germany, has described a discovery of the highest importance for the stamping out of malaria and the acclimation of the white race in the tropics. The article is based on letters received from Dr. Kuehn, an army surgeon in German Southwest Africa, who has been studying the so-called "Sterbe," a plague which has decimated the horses of that country. It was found that serum from horses afflicted with this disease is a cure and a preventive of malaria in men, white or black. Inoculations with such serum produce neither general nor local inflammation, and have been employed with success in very severe cases. The experiments were begun early in 1899. Fifty persons inoculated in that year passed the rainy season, from November to May, without showing the slightest symptom of malaria. On the other hand, many who had not been inoculated were attacked by the disease, but were easily cured by inoculation. All these persons were natives; but it is a remarkable fact that the natives of this region show less natural immunity to malaria than Europeans.

SCIENCE BREVITIES.

"MOLTEN WOOD."—It is reported through consular channels that Mr. De Gall, inspector of forests at Lemur, France, has invented a substance which he calls "molten wood," and which among other things is a good electrical insulator. By dry distillation of the wood under high pressure the escape of developing gases is prevented, thereby reducting the substance to a molten condition. After cooling off, the report states, the mass assumes the character of coal, yet without showing a trace of the organic structure of that material. This new body is hard, but can be shaped and polished at will. It is also represented as impervious to water and acid and is a perfect electric non-conductor.

SEA-WEED.—It has been discovered by Messrs. Letts and Hawthorne that sea-weed is a valuable test for ascertaining the presence of sewage in sea-water. "The authors' attention was directed to this subject," says *Merck's Report*, "by the large quantities of sea-weed outside Dublin and Belfast that were putrefying. The two chemists thereupon determined to discover the reason of this extensive putrefaction of the weed, and protracted investigations proved that the successful growth of the weed depends almost entirely upon the presence of sewage in the water. The greater the pollution, the more prolific was the growth of the weed, while on the other hand, if no pollution of the water existed, the weed simply died."

"IT is stated that a movement is on foot to do away with automobile shows," says *The Scientific American*. "The reason for the step is to be found in the experience of bicycle manufacturers. As long as a few of the leading makers engaged spaces at the show, all of the others felt obliged to be represented. This results in a heavy expense. A plan has been formulated for starting a train of automobiles around the country, beginning next March. The train will visit all cities of consequence and remain from one to four days in each, in order that the residents may inspect the automobiles and have their merits explained to them. It is thought that this will benefit the industry to a greater degree than can be accomplished by holding shows, and the expense would not be greater than in going from one show to another."

A MOVING platform is to be constructed in Paris on the right bank of the Seine. It will be underground, and its length will be about ten kilometers [6 miles]. "The route proposed," says *Electricity*, "passes under the Avenue de l'Opéra, the great boulevards, the Boulevard Sébastopol, the Rue Turbigo, and the Rue de Rivoli. In place of the three platforms now existing at the Exposition the new scheme embraces four. The first, as at the Exposition, will be stationary, the second will have a velocity of 1.50 meters 5 feet], the third 3 meters [10 feet], and the fourth 5 meters [16½ feet]. Thus a very rapid means of transit afoot will exist in that portion of Paris now the most encumbered by vehicular traffic, for as all locomotion will be in one direction a person walking fast on the fourth platform, having no adverse stream of pedestrians to avoid, will easily be able to do more than ten miles an hour.

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THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

THE TEMPORAL POWER OF THE POPE AS CLAIMED BY ROMAN CATHOLICS.

THE Roman question is evidently not a dead issue, and the Rev. Dr. Humphrey Moynihan, in an article said to be inspired by Cardinal Rampolla (the Papal Secretary of State) and prepared under his direction, declares that it will not be a dead issue until the temporal power is restored to the papacy. Writing in *The Catholic World* (December), Dr. Moynihan gives the following reasons why the Pope will never acquiesce in the present status in Italy:

"The church is essentially a sovereign and complete society, possessing its own organization and laws, and having to do with the moral and spiritual interests of mankind. At its head is one who is the Universal Teacher of Christendom. The spiritual ruler of many nations can not be the vassal or dependent of a government; the man who guides the destinies of a mighty spiritual empire, standing for justice and righteousness amongst the nations and rulers of nations, must be independent of political control. Independence is the very breath of life of a moral power. 'Let the very enemies of the temporal power of the Apostolic See,' wrote Pius IX., 'say with what confidence and respect they would receive the exhortations, advice, orders, and decrees of the sovereign pontiff if they beheld him subject to the will of a prince or government.' The Pope must be above suspicion. His authority must not be neutralized by mistrust as to his motives or uncertainty as to his freedom of action. If Leo XIII. were but the first subject of the new King of Italy, he would ere long be regarded as the instrument of a government, and his decrees would be scanned for evidences of Quirinal diplomacy. Other nations would not turn to him with that unquestioning confidence which is due to the Father of the Faithful. Sooner or later the Roman pontiff would be no better than the Archbishop of Canterbury, who exercises spiritual jurisdiction only under the shadow of a scepter, and the Church Catholic would shrink to the limits and the servitude of a national institution. The popes have always understood that they were not as other kings. When, for example, seven hundred years ago Nicholas III. published a constitution in which a foreign prince or potentate was forbidden to rule in Rome, it was on the ground that the pontiff should be free in his administration of the church. When in more recent times, by the orders of Napoleon I., the papal colors were hauled down in Rome, Pius VII. at once launched against the French Emperor a decree of excommunication, while other princes were silently acquiescing in the sentence by which the master of the world deprived them of their inheritance.

"In the Roman pontiff sovereignty and independence are inseparable. This is freely acknowledged even by eminent Protestant historians, who admit that, on the one hand, secular governments have an inborn tendency to control the church, and that, on the other hand, the saddest pages of the annals of the church were written when the papacy was under the influence of a dynasty. Gregorovius, rising from his study of the mind of the church, testifies: 'The Metropolis of Christendom, representing a universal principle, should have liberty, and the supreme pontiff who has his seat there should not be the subject of any king.' Ranke, with the history of the church before him, re-echoes words spoken at the Council of Basle: 'I was once of opinion that it would be good to separate the spiritual wholly from the temporal power; but I have learned that the Pope without the patrimony of Peter would be nothing more than the slave of kings or princes.'"

As to the Pope's "title deeds" to Rome, Dr. Moynihan says:

"Few dynasties there are that have not begun in violence or perfidy; the papacy, the most majestic as well as the most ancient of all dynasties, is founded not on fraud or force, but on the homage of a grateful people. 'The temporal dominion of the popes,' writes Gibbons, 'is now confirmed by the reverence of one thousand years, and their noblest title is the choice of a people whom they had redeemed from slavery.' None, save perhaps those who are profoundly ignorant of history or careless of the arguments that would buttress usurpation, now deny that for eleven hundred years and more the popes ruled Rome through the choice of the people they had saved. The days when the papacy acquired its title-deeds to Rome were the stormiest that Italy and the world have ever seen. Europe rocked beneath the tramp of hordes of barbarians; the fairest provinces of civilization were given over to havoc and pillage; those who cowered in walled cities looked out on flaming homes and vineyards, and listened to the cries of their countrymen as they were put to the sword or swept away as slaves. It was a time when, as Dean Church says, it seemed as if the whole world and human society were hopelessly wrecked without prospect or hope of escape. It was then, when animalism and brute force were let loose upon the Garden of Europe, that Italy, left to the mercy of every invader, looked to the popes of Rome for safety, and the popes saved Italy, and with it the cause of civilization. Then, and in days to come, the papacy was the one stable institution which by virtue of the dominating power of religion could exercise a controlling influence over the warring elements of the age, and establish a new order of things upon the ruins of the old. . . . Were it not for the Roman pontiffs, Rome would have shared the fate of Memphis and Babylon: it would be a nameless and shapeless heap of ruins in a wilderness swept by pestilence. 'It is not necessary,' writes Leo XIII., 'to recall the immense benefit and the glory with which the popes have covered the city of their choice—a glory and benefaction which are written in indestructible letters upon the monuments and the history of all the ages. Rome belongs to the popes by titles such and so many that no prince, whoever he be, can show the like for any city in his kingdom.'"

On the other hand, says the writer, the present occupants hold Rome only by "an act of treachery that is a blot on the history of Italy and a scandal to the world":

"The deed of the 20th of September, 1870, was a violation not only of the rights of nations, but also of a convention to the observance of which the honor of Italy had been pledged. That deed, unjust and dishonorable in its inception, has never been legitimized. True, in the reign of terror which followed the storming of Rome, almost before the roar of the cannon had died away, a plebiscitum of the people of Rome was held in order to justify usurpation; but the fact that only forty votes were cast for the Pope, while forty thousand were cast for the invaders, is sufficient proof, if any proof were needed, that the popular vote of the Romans was a shameless farce. Only a few months afterward an address of loyalty presented to Pius IX. by a society of the city bore the signatures of over twenty-seven thousand Roman citizens. On the first anniversary of the so-called plebiscitum an address was again presented to the Holy Father by the young men of Rome, who declared: 'Our hearts burned with indignation when we witnessed the impudence of your enemies, who dared to lie on parchment and marble, representing as a vote of the Roman people that ridiculous *plébiscite* which was nothing but the vote of a horde of immigrants, strangers, public criminals, and the few cowards who allowed themselves to be drawn by threats and promises.'"

The Roman question, Dr. Moynihan asserts, is more acute to-day than it has been at any time during the past thirty years, and Leo believes with confidence that Rome will be restored:

"The spoliation of the Holy See is only an incident in the history of the papacy. Nine times have men taken Rome from the popes, and nine times have they given it back. Once more will the patrimony of Peter be given back—not, perhaps, so extensive as it was in days gone by, for it is only independence that is sought, not territorial aggrandizement—but certain it is that immemorial right and the eternal patience of Rome will triumph over the iniquities of 'accomplished acts,' and Leo's dream will be fulfilled: 'Rome will again become what Providence and the course of ages made it, not dwarfed to the condition of a capital of one kingdom, nor divided between two different and sovereign powers in a dualism contrary to its whole history, but the worthy capital of the Catholic world, great with all the majesty of religion and of the supreme priesthood, a teacher and an example to the nations of morality and civilization.'"

Archbishop Ireland, of St. Paul, who has lately returned from a visit to Rome, pointed out in a recent sermon in Washington

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some of the reasons why Roman Catholics believe that the Pope should be an independent sovereign, and prophesied that at no remote day the "Italian people and Christendom at large would give back to the papacy its wonted dignity and liberty." He said in part (we quote from the New York *Tribune*, December 10):

"The Catholic Church is a divinely created organism, receiving directly from Christ its mission and all the rights which are needed that it may live and work; its life and mission are expressed in its supreme chief, the successor of Peter, and to him belong in a preeminent manner all the rights inherent in the church and whose possession is needed for fulfilment of its mission and work willed by Christ. Hence the pontiff's right to independence and as a consequence to temporal sovereignty.

"If the Pope is a civil subject of an authority outside of himself, he has not the necessary freedom; the ruler or government would interfere, make laws impairing his freedom of action, or strive to impose methods more serviceable to the state than the church. The pontiff's words must bear no possible suspicion that they were imposed by men who have no authority in things moral and spiritual. If the sovereign pontiff be the subject of the King of Italy, what guaranty is there for other peoples and other rulers that, whether through fear or favor, Italian influences have not penetrated into the Vatican, and that Italian interests are not to be served? The peril of national jealousies would be the greater were the foreign countries at the time warring with the King of Italy.

"We in America are willing indeed to hearken to the words of Peter, but it must be plain that they are not the words of a foreign ruler whose sole purpose is the interest of a foreign nationality, not of the church. The sole effective guaranty of independence for the pontiff is temporal sovereignty, which marks out for him sufficient space on earth upon which he may work in fulfilment of his mission, with all the independence he needs. The dependence of a bishop upon the civil ruler severs him from union with Christians in other countries, reduces his church to the condition of a national church, and disrupts the oneness of the universal church. Other churches than the Catholic do not demand civil independence and temporal power for their chieftains, because no other church than the Catholic is a world church, nor aims at being at the same time universal and one; nor fulfils the injunction of the Savior, 'Teach all nations.'"

MAX MÜLLER'S INFLUENCE ON RELIGIOUS THOUGHT AND SCHOLARSHIP.

AMONG the most appreciative of recent estimates of the late Professor Max Müller is one contributed by Mr. Moncure D. Conway, who, tho an American, lived for over thirty years in England and knew the great Oriental scholar during that time. Mr. Conway speaks of Müller's deep and far-reaching influence over religious thinkers and scholars not only in England and America but in India. Of this influence on scholars in three continents he says, writing in *The North American Review* (December, 1900):

"I was much impressed by some characteristics of the memorial meeting held at Columbia University. The large assembly of cultured people was addressed by eminent educators in different institutions, men occupied with various branches of learning, and the most striking feature of every tribute was its pervading sentiment of personal gratitude to the teacher whose labors had ended. Apparently none of the speakers had known Max Müller personally, and only one—Prof. Richard Gottheil—mentioned having seen him; not one appeared to have adopted his peculiar theories; but each had his grateful debt to pay. He had opened for one his field of research; he had stimulated others to their tasks; he had enriched all by his literary and linguistic masterpieces. What are incidental *errata* of a pioneer in unexplored regions compared with this creation of a scholarly race able to correct the mistake? The master sat at his mighty task, assiduous, unwearied: now his hands are folded on his breast; his case goes to the jury of scholars, and their verdict will everywhere confirm that of the professor of philosophy of Columbia University: 'In a generation rich in scholars no one could be called greater than Max Müller.'

"Especially impressive were the simple words of the Hindu speaker at the meeting, the Swami Abhedananda, who spoke always of the deceased scholar as 'our friend.' Max Müller was indeed the greatest friend India ever had. He not only exhumed for the young Hindus whom England was educating the literature of their race, but gave them the means of understanding it. Wherever I went in India I usually met the students and the pundits, and a number of the titled men and all of these, of whatever caste or sect, regarded Max Müller as the greatest of mankind, and I was charged with messages entreating him to visit India. This enthusiasm of the cultured influenced even the illiterate, insomuch that when his illness was announced in India special sacrifices were offered in the temples for their 'friend.' For the many Hindu students in England Max Müller's house was a sort of shrine. His hospitality to them was pathetically noble. Most of them spoke good English, but he could converse with them in their mother-tongue, and it was beautiful to listen—occasionally I enjoyed that happiness—to his sympathetic talk with them on their studies and their religious ideas. These pilgrims sometimes carried to him even their personal sorrows. Once there presented himself before him a fine-looking Hindu in threadbare dress, who began addressing him excitedly in Sanskrit. Few Hindus can speak Sanskrit, and Max Müller at once recognized an extraordinary man beneath the poor garb. When he answered in Sanskrit and asked the youth to take a seat, and cordially grasped his hand, the Hindu wept. He had a sad story to tell. A Brahman of high caste, Nilakantha Goreh by name, learned in Oriental literature, he had for years studied the various religions, and reached faith in that taught by Jesus. It involved martyrdom. At the nearest mission he announced his conversion. He was deprived of his caste and cast out by his relatives. The stupid missionaries called him 'Nehemiah,' sent him to their book establishment in London, and there he was set to the lowest drudgery. 'A negro slave could hardly be worse treated,' said Max Müller. For a long time that was endured by this most learned convert to Christianity ever known in India. At last he fled, and, knowing by repute just one man in England, found his way to Oxford and to that man. The penniless Hindu scholar was at once installed as a guest in Max Müller's home, and there wrote a useful little work on the Vedantic philosophy.

"Max Müller appeared to have a mission to individual minds. To every thinker his heart and home were always open, and intolerance was absolutely unknown to him. 'You know I do not mind difference of opinion,' he wrote me in relation to criticisms on his Hibbert lectures ('Origin and Growth of Religion,' etc.); and concerning some comments I forwarded he wrote: 'I liked Bradlaugh's articles—they show one of the many possibilities of misunderstanding.' He never showed the slightest heat when discussing a religious question, however fundamental, but he once wrote a rather stern note about the dismay into which some of us were thrown by certain fanatical proceedings of the leader of the Brahmo-Somaj in India, Keshub Chunder Sen. When this leader visited England (1870), his first discourse was given in Martineau's chapel, his second in mine, and all rationalists, including some of the clergy (Dean Stanley, of course), united to give him a grand welcome. This was reported in India and gave his theistic movement a great sanction. But some years later not only Keshub Chunder Sen, but some of his nearest followers, gave themselves up to such superstitious extravagances that their London supporters were compromised. This was especially the case with Max Müller, for just at that time *The Indian Mirror* (Brahmo-Somaj organ at Calcutta) printed extracts from his private letters, praises of the Brahmo movement, that seemed to carry his support to the new fanaticism. A printed lecture of my own being liable to the same misinterpretation, I asked Max Müller whether some mild protest was not needed. He was at first inclined to think there must be misunderstanding or exaggeration in the stories coming from Calcutta, which he, too, had heard: 'Nothing is so easily misrepresented as Oriental phraseology. You remember a beautiful prayer that Colenso quoted, and people laughed at it because it began, "Oh, Ram! oh, Ram!" (*i.e.*, Rama). I enclose you some letters from Keshub Chunder Sen and Mozoomdár. They will show you whether these men are fools or knaves.' It was not, however, a question of what was said, but of wild performances—a combination of

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dervish dances and Roman Catholic rites—and in 1881 the scandal in Calcutta and in London became so acute that silence became impossible. Being in America that year, I did not see what Max Müller wrote, but it was characteristic that his deprecation of the performances should take the form of a quasi-defense of severely censured Sen. He wrote me, December 21, 1881:

"'Altho I am busy with other matters, I could not resist saying a few words for K. Chunder Sen—not that I am not afraid that he has overstrained his brain and may break down altogether, but because I hate ingratitude. That excellent man (and I feel confident of his honesty and freedom of vanity in the beginning) has spent himself—some wheels in the machine with which he worked are out of order—surely he should be treated with kindness—if anything can restore him, it is kindness and sympathy and gratitude. It is the old story of the squeezed-out orange—we do not want that any more, let us throw it out of the window.'

"Max Müller never, I think, met the Brahmo leader. Had he known him or listened to his sermons he must have realized that, however good-hearted, Sen had not the culture or the wisdom to establish any really important movement. He had not the wit to recognize that the grand welcome he received in England and the crowds attending his sermons—wearisome rhapsodies—were all due to the interest in India awakened by the long labors of Max Müller. But, for that matter, how many philologists, orientalists, anthropologists are aware that before Max Müller's time such investigators as themselves were voices in the wilderness? Dean Stanley remarked (I quote from memory): 'In my early life few knew even the name of Buddha; now he is second to but one other.' It was this Oxford scholar who created audiences for such studies, enthusiasts for 'The Light of Asia,' and devout readers for the forty-nine Sacred Books of the East which he has placed in our hands—the most important ethical service ever done by any man for mankind."

THE CREED OF CHRISTIAN SCIENCE.

INCREASED public interest in Christian Science has been stimulated by the recent discussion of this creed in the Protestant Episcopal Church Congress (see THE LITERARY DIGEST, December 1, 1900). In various church assemblies this theme is continually presenting itself as a matter of growing importance to all the churches, and Christian Scientists believe they see a larger measure of comprehension of their tenets. The Ministerial Association of Pembroke, N. H., lately embodied its discussions of Christian Science in a report, which meets with some criticism in an article published in *The Christian Science Sentinel*, the official organ of Mrs. Mary Baker G. Eddy. The writer expresses himself as follows in regard to the much-debated belief of Christian Science as to God, sin, and the existence of matter:

"It is quite true, as stated in the report, that Christian Science gives a more spiritual meaning to certain words. For instance, it gives a clear and explicit definition of God, and consequently a better conception of Him as divine Love—the author and foundation of all that is real. Similarly, Jesus revealed to the world the nature and essence of God in a brighter light than God's chosen people had before conceived of. Mortals need to be stirred and reformed by vigorous and righteous utterances. Our fellow beings are yearning to know God as their ever-present, all-powerful Friend, whom the poet has aptly styled 'The Great Physician.' Few, if any, will say that God is understood and depended upon as fully as He ought to be in the dear relationship of 'Our Father,' who is now and always has been with us, the omnipresent One 'in whom we live, and move, and have our being.'

"Those who believe in one God should rely upon Him as the only cause and motive power of all that really exists. Can it, for a moment, be assumed that God is the cause of sin? Would it not be quite as unreasonable to maintain that sin has any substance or reality? From what first cause has sin derived its substance and reality? The omnipotence and omnipresence and infinity of God has been literally accepted by orthodoxy. Then, to remain orthodox, one must abide by the principle of this fundamental statement. The principle would be departed from and it would be heterodox to say that God's perfect man—reflecting the divine image and likeness—brought a substance called 'sin' into the world, or to say that an unknown would-be creator has done so. It is absurd to believe there is another power called the devil and sin, if God is the only power—Omnipotence—All-in-all. The question is: 'Was it God's man, created in the divine likeness, who sinned, or was it a man of dust, a mortal?' Jesus said, 'A good tree bringeth not forth corrupt fruit.' The water which turns the large wheel is a sufficient motive power for the smaller wheel connected therewith. God controls His universe now even as He did 'when the morning stars sang together.' It is evident that God's standard of perfection would be trailed in the dust by the claim that His creation, originally perfect and pronounced by Him 'very good,' could afterward become very bad. If such were true, there could be no such thing as unchangeable perfection in God's universe. Yet Jesus said: 'Ye therefore shall be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect' (Matt. v. 48, Revised Version). In other words, through obeying the sacred injunctions laid down by the Master, it will at length become clear to our apprehension that the eternal perfection of God and man exists here and now—'the kingdom of heaven within you.'

"Referring to 'Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures,' by Mary Baker G. Eddy, and the quotation therefrom in the ministerial report, that 'man is incapable of sin,' it is necessary to read the context, from which it is seen that God's man is referred to, not mortal men. This is clearly what John the beloved meant when he said: 'Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; . . . he can not sin because he is born of God.' Christian Science takes the Scriptural ground that because sin and matter are not of God—Spirit—they have no right to exist, and can not exist as part of God's kingdom; hence they belong only to mortal consciousness, and will eventually be cast out and destroyed. Sin is a murderer, whose action will cease only when mortals learn to cease sinning. 'And ye know that no murderer hath eternal life.' Eventually it will be found that divine Love actually reigns supreme over all. Is 'such teaching fraught with moral and spiritual danger'? Christianity demands reasonable and scientific conclusions only. It is a grave injustice to say this 'leads to looseness in morals,' even if all do not, as they should, live up to the teachings of Christian Science. A Methodist would persistently deny the statement that any inconsistency in church-members is due to a lack in John Wesley's highest ideals of the Christian life. The teachings of Christian Science strictly inculcate the highest degree of morality.

"The report states that 'Christian Science denies the efficacy of the atonement for the forgiveness of sin.' This statement is the opposite of the tenets prepared by Rev. Mary Baker Eddy for the use of the Christian Science churches. These tenets distinctly acknowledge 'God's forgiveness of sin in the destruction of sin,' and 'the atonement as the efficacy and evidence of divine Love, of man's unity with God, and the great merits of Jesus, the Wayshower.'

"The term 'personality' as applied to God seems to be thought appropriate by some. Christian Scientists have no objection to that conception, provided 'personality' be understood to mean Infinite, Omnipresent Being—Divine Love. The question is asked, 'To whom do Christian Scientists pray?' I reply, They pray to 'Our Father which art in heaven,' as the great Teacher taught how to pray. Our Lord's prayer, spiritually interpreted, heals the sick.

"The report points out that the success of Christian Science is due to two causes: (1) 'Mental weakness,' (2) 'its cures.' As to the first, Festus said, 'Paul, thou art beside thyself'; others said, 'These men are full of new wine.' As to its cures, the report says: 'It is true that Christian Science has produced a large number of cures, especially of nervous disorders.' From my extensive reading, and from personal information, I feel safe in saying there are very many more patients healed by Christian Science from dyspepsia, rheumatism, fevers, tumors, and cancers than there are from hysteria or other nervous symptoms. It is quite true, as the brethren have stated, that 'this is not a sufficient reason for a Christian becoming a skeptic.' The fact is, however, that no one ever becomes a skeptic through reading 'Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures.' On the contrary, many infidels have been reclaimed by it, and many who formerly seldom read their Bible now love it and use it as their daily companion. The first tenet of Christian Scientists is: 'As

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adherents of Truth, we take the Scriptures for our guide to eternal Life.' That leaves no room for skepticism."

Christian Science, says the writer, does not assert that the flesh is an illusion and pain an imagination, as these words are commonly understood. He quotes from "Science and Health" (p. 457) the statement: "Sickness is neither imaginary nor unreal—that is, to the false sense of the patient. It is more than fancy, for it is solid conviction. It is therefore to be dealt with through right apprehension of the Truth of Being." Christian Science, he adds, has no quarrel with medical men, who, he freely acknowledges, "are striving to reach a higher ideal in the art of healing diseases and alleviating suffering." Neither has it any quarrel with ministers of the Gospel, "who would, if they understood Christian Science, rejoice to imitate Christ by cleansing lepers, restoring sight to the blind, causing the lame to walk, and raising the dead. . . . When the student of Christ's religion learns, through glad experience in living more fully up to the teachings of our Lord, that Christianity has a right to a science to declare and prove the Truth, then he will know that he has indeed found Christian Science, and that this name is by no means 'a misleading term,' but that it is, as the words imply, the truth of Christ made practical in the salvation of mankind from sin, sickness, and death."

IS JAPAN, WITHOUT CHRISTIANITY, A "YELLOW PERIL"?

AT the recent Church Congress in Newcastle, England, Mrs. Isabella Bishop, the famous Oriental traveler, and the first lady member of the Royal Geographical Society, well known also as the author of "Unbeaten Paths in Japan," "Korea and Her Neighbors," and other works, made some remarks upon the religious condition of Japan which attracted considerable attention. In referring to the recent well-known failure of Christianity to make any satisfactory headway in that country, "where agnosticism has carried all before it," she declared that "the growing manhood of the country, freed from the teaching of Confucius, and not having the teaching of Christ, was, indeed, a yellow peril, not only to Japan itself, but to the Far East. Dazzling as the progress of Japan has been, she has as much need of the Gospel and Christian teaching as Central Africa has, and possibly more."

This statement has aroused considerable criticism from the Japanese press, which do not relish having their race called a "yellow peril." Among other journals the Kobe *Chronicle* (November 15) thus comments on Mrs. Bishop's words:

"It puzzles us how a lady of Mrs. Bishop's observation can, after visiting not only the beaten but unbeaten tracts of Japan, believe that her own particular country exhibits under Christianity such immense moral superiority that any nation failing to profess the same religion is going straight to perdition, and is a 'peril,' yellow or white. For the inference of course is, that Christian England or Christian Europe being morally superior to non-Christian Japan, let us therefore redouble our mission work. If those who assemble in the Church Congress care to send missionaries to this country to propagate the faith in which they believe, there is no reason why they should not do so. Such emissaries will receive better treatment on the whole in Japan than a Buddhist missionary would receive in England. But to declare Japan to be on the level of the savages of Central Africa, because she is not Christian—and it is difficult to see what else Mrs. Bishop could have meant—is a flight of imagination that may cause an inquiry from an agnostic Japanese as to whether veracity is included among the Christian virtues. Such a remark inevitably suggests comparisons. There are Japanese who have visited Europe and America without being much impressed by the overwhelming moral superiority that ought to be evident in the West before the West undertakes to convert the East. We venture to say that there is no country in the world where life and property are more safe than in Japan; there are few civilized countries where there is less of that hopeless wretchedness which is the result among industrial nations of the wide gulf established between the rich and poor; nor, as older residents will admit, are there many countries where there is more mutual help between individuals, especially among the poorer classes. There are vices that are peculiar to other countries, and we are by no means among those who reckon the Japanese as a little less than angels, any more than we would place Englishmen or Americans or Germans in that interesting category.

"Our opinion is that if the virtues and vices of civilized countries could by any process be summed up, the balance as between nations would be found fairly even. At the same time it may be pointed out that Mrs. Bishop has chosen a rather unfortunate time for her Central African comparison. Recently there came back to Japan a Japanese Christian preacher who had been sent to work among the army in China by Japanese Christian congregations. On the same steamer was the correspondent of an Osaka journal. In the course of conversation the former remarked how good it was to see Japan joining the Christian nations in spreading the glorious gospel of civilization among the Chinese. To which the Japanese journalist replied by asking the Christian commissioner whether he had noticed the curious fact that the peacefully disposed Chinese found their lives, property, and women far safer among the heathen Japanese troops than among the Christian Occidentals. Moreover, we have been assured on the authority of a late resident that the quarter of Peking which is under the control of the Japanese is the only part of the Chinese capital where the people have recovered sufficient confidence to pursue their ordinary avocations. This may be because the Japanese understand the Chinese better; it may be that the Chinese would rather be subject to a 'yellow' people than a white; it may be that the Japanese have a more efficient military police; whatever the reason, the fact remains that confidence appears to have been more quickly established in that part of Peking under Japanese control than in the others. Nor is the case singular. Those who follow the events of the campaign in North China in 1894–95 will remember the remarkable fashion in which the country settled down as soon as the Japanese occupied it. Nothing surprised those who watched the incidents of that war so much as the remarkable talent for the administration of conquered territory shown by the Japanese, and the placidity with which the Chinese accepted Japanese rule. Of looting there was little or none; offenses against property and person were punished with the utmost rigor; there was the least possible interference with existing laws or customs; Chinese headmen of villages were even invited to sit with Japanese administrators in hearing a charge against any inhabitant; and the result was that, instead of fleeing, the Chinese remained to pursue their ordinary avocations and even to assist the invaders by their services in transport—services, by the way, which were paid for, not 'commandeered.' These are facts which Mrs. Bishop could have discovered for herself before drawing her Central African parallel; but they are now further enforced by what is almost universally acknowledged to be the admirable behavior of the Japanese troops during the recent troubles in China. We do not know that it is possible to better demonstrate the utter hollowness of the assertion that Christianizing a nation necessarily means the humanizing thereof, than to compare the conduct of the Japanese with the other troops engaged in the recent operations."

RELIGIOUS NOTES.

A NUMBER of usages hitherto looked upon as Roman Catholic are being adopted from time to time by Protestant churches. "Retreats" and "missions" have long been common in the Episcopal church, as are many other Catholic customs. It is more surprising to hear of the former usage adopted by a Presbyterian church in New York. The "Old First" Presbyterian Church in this city has also lately thrown open its doors for meditation and prayer during each week-day. *The Catholic News* tells of a Methodist church in Arcola, Ill., where an "angelus" bell is rung every morning at eleven o'clock "as a signal for each member to cease his or her worldly labors and engage in prayer."

PEROSI turns out oratorio after oratorio with a facility that suggests to some of his irreverent critics the comparison of an Italian barrel-organ. His latest work is called "Mosé." *The Westminster Gazette* says of it: "In the first part Moses goes into the country of the Midianites, where he meets with Zipporah, the wise and gentle. The dominant idea here is idyllic. This part ends with the command given to Moses by Jehovah from the burning bush. In the second part Moses and Aaron menace Pharaoh, and the plagues of Egypt are represented by choruses and orchestral interludes in Perosi's well-known style. The third part represents Moses praying by the side of the Red Sea, the murmurs of the Hebrews, the triumph of the pursuing Egyptians, the parting of the waters, and the hymn of the conquering Hebrews."

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FOREIGN TOPICS.

LATER PHASES OF THE WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA.

THE end of the year is marked by a revival of interest in the struggle between Great Britain and the Boers. There is no longer talk of intervention on the part of the powers. "Whoever understands the feeling of England, whoever realizes what she has already expended in this war, will also understand that Great Britain would rather risk war with the whole world than brook interference," says the *National Zeitung* (Berlin). The *Indépendance Belge* (Brussels) nevertheless hopes that the British Government may sooner or later welcome arbitration.

NO FLEECE.

KRUGER-CALCHAS: "Flowers, flowers, beautiful lady—and nothing but flowers."
—*Humoristische Blätter, Berlin.*

"There is no need for armed interference," says the paper; "and no one can wish to see the struggle extended into a bloody European war; but why should Great Britain refuse the good offices of friendly negotiators?" It is being realized throughout the British empire that the resistance of the Boers is not broken, tho that resistance is attributed chiefly to Boer ignorance. The London (Ontario) *Advertiser* fears that the withdrawal of troops from South Africa was premature. It says:

"Better far would it have been to have kept a very large force in the field for the last two months, and thereby have thoroughly controlled the veldt, than to have led the Boers, very ill-informed as many of them are, to believe the stories told by their leaders that the British were withdrawing because they were afraid. A thoroughgoing surrender of every Boer commander in the field, and a complete covering of the territory with well-drilled mounted police, will alone show the Boers how hopeless is their struggle against destiny."

A correspondent of the London *Times* reiterates the opinion that the Boers, if they could be reached by proclamations, would give up the struggle, especially if they were asked to consider the feelings of the prisoners who have been transported from Africa, and if the power of Great Britain were duly explained to them. Here and there, however, it is suggested that the British Government should offer terms. *The Statist* (London) expresses itself to the following effect:

Men like Botha and De Wet should be approached with a view to ascertaining what terms they would accept. The Boers may be offered full citizens' rights, and their leaders could be given positions in the executive council of the new colonies. Brave enemies, such as the Boers have shown themselves to be, are not likely to surrender unconditionally, and the way the war is being carried on is not likely to end their resistance. If the Boers will not come to terms with Sir Alfred Milner, the chief justice of the Cape Colony, Mr. Hofmeyer, may find them more willing to listen. The British Government must show that England is not vengeful.

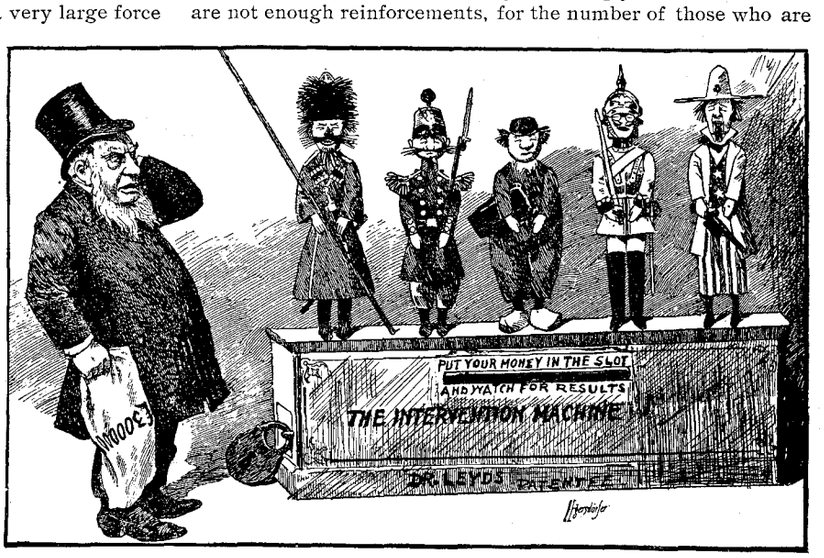
MR. CHAMBERLAIN AND MOSES.

"Good heavens! Can that be Kruger?"

(Mr. Chamberlain, with his wife and son, yesterday morning visited the churches of St. John Lateran, Santa Maria Maggiore, and San Pietro in Vincoli, where he stayed for some time admiring the celebrated statue of Moses by Michael Angelo.—*The London Times*, November 20, 1900.)
—*Westminster Gazette.*

The Westminster Gazette also suggests the granting of terms. But it is doubtful that the Boers will accept anything short of complete independence. President Kruger says they will not. The Boer envoys in Europe all agree that their people's chances are improving. On the other hand, the British army is reported on the Continent to be very tired of the struggle. The London correspondent of the *Schlesische Zeitung* describes the views of British military men on the whole as follows:

This is what military men thought in Pretoria about November 10, when these gentlemen were returning: If anything, the military situation has improved from the Boers' point of view. Only their best men are in the field now and under the best leaders. On our side (the British) the situation is getting worse. Our losses are enormous, and the volunteers return home as fast as they can get away, as there is so little return for the enthusiasm with which they went out. The generals can not do much, for the troops obey very unwillingly. Moreover, there are not enough reinforcements, for the number of those who are willing to take the place of the returning ones is decreasing continually. For some weeks we have been waiting in vain for the organization of that police force which was to be ten thousand strong. People will not volunteer for it. The officers are



HE HAS PUT HIS MONEY IN THE SLOT, BUT THE FIGURES WON'T WORK.
—*South African Review, Cape Town.*

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as dissatisfied as the men, and the commanding officers are quarreling. "I am tired of it!" is what you hear on all sides, and this naturally affects the discipline. The wealthy officers, who manage to get home, are much envied by their poorer comrades. A few brilliant engagements would improve the spirit of the army; but the Boers are not to be caught: their object is to tire us out, and they know that time is in their favor. There is no rest. The Boers are swarming everywhere and we hear of "victories" continually; but they are barren victories. There is a rumor that Austenburg had to be evacuated because it was impossible to provision the place. Here in Pretoria we have not too many provisions, the sick list is swelling, and everybody wonders how we will get along when the rainy season begins. The Outlander refugees are getting to be very restless, and even Rhodes seems to be at loggerheads with the imperialists now.

The *Handelsblad* (Amsterdam) quotes from the Dutch South African papers at length to show that the sufferings of the Boer women and children who are treated on the *reconcentrado* plan are very considerable. The Boer women of the Cape Colony have been aroused thereby, and there is again talk of a general revolt of the Afrikanders. The following, from a letter by Miss Cronje, daughter of the Free State commandant, Andries Cronje, is typical of the narratives which fill pages of the Dutch papers:

. . . "Later, General Macdonald returned. They took everything—the car, the dried fruit, the blankets, even the servants' clothes. 'I had better take all these good things, else you will give them to the Boers,' he said. Then he asked me what reason I could give why the house should not be burned? 'What is to become of my poor old mother,' I asked. 'Oh, never mind about your mother,' he said. 'Why don't you tell your father to come back and plow his land?' He told mother to go and pull father home by his whiskers. September 16 a skirmish took place not far from our home. On the 18th they came and burned the house. I asked them to let me keep at least one cow, but they said: 'Not one, not one! Tell your men to give in.' We told them that our men would never give in, and that the only people they, the English, could war against were women, because women could not shoot back."

Some British Liberal and Radical papers regard the methods employed in South Africa as not creditable; but *The Standard* points out that advances were made to the Boer commanders at a comparatively early time. It says:

"It has been suggested, not without plausibility, that the exclusion of the Boer commanding officers from the offer made by Lord Roberts to those who voluntarily surrendered has tended to keep the hostile bands in the field. As a matter of fact, the officers, tho not included in the terms of the proclamation, were not shut out. . . . Through Mrs. Botha and Mrs. Joubert, as intermediaries, communications were sent to General Botha and his colleagues. We may be sure that no argument was omitted to persuade them of the certainty of receiving honorable treatment. Yet they took no notice, and went on fighting. The blame rests not with the British authorities, but with those who, outside the wasted territories, have encouraged the belief that, by maintaining their tactics of sporadic vexation, the Boers may in the end weary us into restoring their independence. That can never be."

According to statements published at the time in the *Staats-Courant* by General Botha, he was offered $50,000 a year if he would accept the British terms, and similar offers were made to other leaders.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

Alcoholic Drinks in the Boer Army.—The fighting Boer has always discouraged whisky-drinking, and the present war is no exception to the rule, as the following by Fritz v. d. Straaten in the *Süd-Afrikanische Korrespondenz* shows:

"In the Boer army liquor-drinking has been prohibited from the beginning, and smuggling prevented as much as possible. The rule worked well. Our men have been in the saddle hundreds of miles at a stretch and in all sorts of weather, yet none 'caved in.' We had no hygienic uniforms, many had not even warm overcoats; yet the cold nights and hot days did not hurt the men. I have asked many medical men about the matter, and nearly all attributed the remarkable physical endurance of the Boers to their abstemiousness. It has been said that liquor will assist one in bearing fatigue. Not a word of it is true. Once during the campaign on the Tugela, I, with a few comrades, reached an abandoned farm. The sun was sinking. We had been in the saddle since daybreak, without food or drink. Nothing eatable was in the house, but one of the men found a bottle of Cape brandy. Every one shared the find except an old cattle Boer. And the result? All who took a drink were in a raging fever half an hour after. Despite all the hunger and thirst I had experienced I never felt so bad during the whole campaign. Had we met any Britishers when we continued our ride the old Boer who refused to drink would have been the only one able to fight. It is absolutely false that liquor raises the courage. The only result it has is to make the men more careless. This may have been of some value in the old days of hand-to-hand fighting; but what is wanted to-day is iron nerve, a clear eye, quick decision. I will only add that the Europeans, on the Boers' side, felt no bad effects from being deprived of liquor."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

EUROPEAN COMMENT ON THE AMENDED CANAL TREATY.

THE European comment on this subject is chiefly British comment; and such interest as is shown by the press of other countries lies not in the relation of the canal to their own nations, but in the possible rupture which it may cause between America and Great Britain.

In some of the British comment, a number of points are brought out that have not been dwelt upon in the general discussion that has taken place on this side regarding the importance of the canal. *The Times* (London), after quoting figures from the report of the isthmian canal commission to prove that the "tonnage likely to go through the canal would, after all, be inconsiderable," declares that "there are some doubts as to whether the thing is commercially worth doing." Referring to the comparison with the Suez Canal, *The Times* says:

"As a matter of fact the analogy is very imperfect. The Suez Canal lies in one of the greatest trade routes of the world. The Nicaragua Canal has no such advantage. The Suez Canal joins great trading communities; the Nicaragua Canal would join only two great oceans which themselves produce no trade. The Suez Canal has no railway rivals; the Nicaragua Canal would have a dozen transcontinental lines to compete with; and, as the backbone of the American continent lies very near the Pacific, the trend of trade is eastward, always eastward at every parallel one chooses to take. The Panama Railway carries goods at a cost, including transshipment at both ends, which is considerably less than could be charged on the Nicaragua Canal. Yet if that canal were to secure the whole transcontinental trade of Panama, it would not levy dues on more than 600,000 tons of shipping. It is sometimes assumed that British trade with the East would follow the projected route. But to Calcutta the voyage would be 9,000 miles longer by Nicaragua than by Suez; to Hongkong it would be 4,000 miles longer; to Yokohama 800 miles longer; and to Melbourne 1,600 miles longer. Add to this that the Suez dues are far lower than the Nicaragua Canal could by any possibility afford to charge, and that the Suez route is infinitely better provided with coaling-stations."

Summarizing, from a British standpoint, *The Times* concludes:

"The great currents of British trade are little likely to pass through the Nicaragua Canal. There is a very considerable trade with Chile and other states on the Pacific slope, but it is carried on in sailing-vessels, which can not use the Nicaragua Canal because both ends are in the belt of calms called the doldrums; and there are reasons which shippers understand well enough why transfer to steam-vessels is unlikely."

The same journal, referring to the adoption of the Davis amendment, regrets that "such an unnecessary piece of jingoism" should have been perpetrated by the Senate. The

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amended treaty it characterizes as "subversive of the avowed and apparent objects of the original agreement." It concludes as follows: "If the concessions to which we have consented are refused, we can only express our regret. Our existing treaty rights remain untouched, and, as we have said, they are guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States so long as they are neither broken by force nor amended by amicable negotiation."

The Standard (London) declares that "the Senate by its amendment has nullified the efforts of its own State Department as well as of the British Foreign Office, and has run counter to the views of both governments." It concludes: "That the Hay-Pauncefote treaty should be accepted by us, as now amended, is of course out of the question." *The Globe* (London) declares that "the Hay-Pauncefote compromise goes to the farthest extreme in conciliation and represents England's last word on the canal question." Henry Labouchere thinks that Great Britain would be wise in accepting the amended treaty, and that the United States has a right to be paramount in the Nicaragua Canal, just as England has a right to control the Suez Canal. *The Chronicle* (London) says that, "as the first outcome of President McKinley's reelection, this is discouraging. . . . It means, in a word, that the jingoes and anti-English members of the Senate have triumphed, and we are back again to-day where we were at the time of the Venezuela quarrel and President Cleveland's insolent and provocative speech." *The Chronicle* bluntly demands "unconditional refusal of the new amendment," but asks, in conclusion, "What force has Lord Salisbury to back up a refusal? Our army is shut up in South Africa and China, and our navy is needed to protect communications with both. Seldom in its stormy career has the Conservative Government been placed in a more dangerous dilemma."

"It is incredible that the English Government could allow itself even to consider the possibility of permitting its rights to be ignored in so cool and insolent a manner," remarks *The Saturday Review*. It continues:

"The policy of perpetual concession to the United States, and overstrained eulogium of her statesmen, meets with no response from the other party save fresh demands and increasing insolence. The conviction that we shall on no possible grounds quarrel with them has become so ingrained in American politicians, and has been so carefully fostered by our fatuous courting of their good will, that it is almost impossible now to convince them that they are wrong."

The Westminster Gazette thinks that the British should get some concessions on the Alaska boundary dispute in return for acceptance of the canal amendments. *The Speaker*, another Liberal paper, says: "We imagined that we could foster in others a spirit of disregard for international usage and that this crime would not recoil upon our own heads. Almost its first effect has been the launching against the country of a direct menace to which we shall probably bow with all the loss of dignity and national position which it involves."

Turning to the continental nations, the *Nieuws van den Dag* (Amsterdam) does not think that England will seriously oppose as strong a power as the United States. That is also the opinion of the *Kölnische Zeitung* (Cologne). Other German papers regard the amendments as likely to provoke serious "misunderstandings" between this country and Great Britain.

The *Journal des Débats* (Paris) says:

"The Senate has created rather a delicate situation, from the point of view of the Anglo-American relations. In the face of this diplomatic embroglio, outsiders should remain cool and view it without being influenced by the sentiment of the masses. At first sight, the vote of the Senate looks like an affront both to England and the United States; it even offers the perspective of complications between these powers; and the general public, ill-disposed toward the English as it is, may not be displeased to find that new embarrassments are in preparation for them. But we think it would be imprudent to give way to this sentiment, however natural it may seem to be. For the Nicaragua question interests all nations, and the attitude of the Senate may create difficulties for the Washington Government with the whole world. Without a doubt, the United States, while showing contempt for Great Britain, offers violence to the rights of the human race. Hence the other powers, especially those which still have territory and interests in America, can not remain indifferent, for they must say to themselves: *hodie tibi, cras mihi.* [To-day, for you; to-morrow, for me]."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

BRUNETIÈRE ON THE "AMERICAN SPIRIT."

THE European contention that the people of the United States are too heterogeneous in origin and as yet too diverse in temperament to admit of the existence of a real "American type," is presented exhaustively and at considerable length by Ferdinand Brunetière, of the French Academy, in a recent magazine article. M. Brunetière's text is a book entitled "The American Spirit," by Edmond de Nevers, a French Canadian, brought out a month or so ago in Paris. M. Nevers is disturbed over the great migration of Canadians, especially French Canadians, to the United States. Do these become real Americans, he asks, or do they retain their old-world French traditions and customs? He asks further: "Is it to our political interest to contribute to the unification of the entire North American continent; and will it be possible for us, under the Stars and Stripes, to grow and develop, without losing anything, without sacrificing anything we hold dear, but remaining faithful to our French Catholic traditions?"

In answer, M. Nevers concludes that the contributions of Europe to the population of the United States are so diverse that, adding the negro and the Indian, we can not possibly as yet have a pure national type here.

The Americans, declares M. Brunetière, in his review of the book (in *Le Revue des Deux Mondes*), call themselves Anglo-Saxons, and "such they are to a certain extent"; but the original strain has been greatly modified by alien populations, particularly by Germans and Irish. The Anglo-Saxon is naturally an aristocrat. His most marked characteristics are "a love of gain, a spirit of practical enterprise, a cold, proud exclusiveness, and distrust of strangers." "The progress of the democratic idea in America," M. Brunetière continues, "is the very contradiction of the Anglo-Saxon ideal, and, if proof is desired, it may be found in the resistance, pushed to the point of cruel persecution, with which the Americans, when they were really Anglo-Saxons, opposed the immigration of foreigners." The Americans, M. Brunetière thinks, are being gradually but surely democratized by the preponderating influence of the Irish immigrant, "who is essentially and always a democrat." As soon as the first Irish immigrant came to America, he "instinctively, perhaps unconsciously, set about destroying what traces of inequality he found in the structure of American society." It is due to his influence, M. Brunetière holds, that American cities are all alike, and "present such a dreary monotony of appearance." It is the democracy of art and of architecture. This "deadly abrogation of inequality" may also be seen in the dress on our streets. "No one in America, man or woman, appears in the costume of his or her condition. In the streets of American cities one never sees the blouse of the workman, or the little cap of the working-girl; every man dresses like a gentleman, every woman like a lady." Our citizens of Irish origin, moreover, are not to be found in any large numbers in our aristocratic cities, such as Boston, Baltimore, and New Orleans. They flock to our democratic strongholds: New York, Chicago, San Francisco. The influence of the Germans, Dutch, and other foreign nation-

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alities M. Brunetière admits to be strong, but less evident than that exercised by the Irish.

The solution of the race problem in America, which must precede the appearance of a real national spirit, he thinks, is as yet in the distant future, but it will come. We quote again:

"The democratic movement, represented, if you will, by the Irish element, is presenting in 'course of separation and contact' from all the races of ancient Europe, the essential characteristics of an American spirit, as yet undetermined and variable. When these characteristics have, as it were, become fixed, the old strains of blood will become dormant, and then, just as formerly, the Romanizing of the world did not prevent the Gaul from becoming France and the Iberian from becoming Spain, so the Anglicizing of the North American continent will not prevent the American spirit from stamping its individuality upon the heterogeneous elements of which it is formed and which it will be able to assimilate to itself. . . . If one asks why the Irish element has become so powerful in the United States, and, as the real source of the American spirit, why it may be said to rule the nation, it is precisely because this element has not attempted to maintain its autonomy in the Union."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

WAS THE PARIS EXPOSITION A NATIONAL LOSS TO FRANCE?

THE general verdict of European opinion on the results of the Paris Exposition seems to be that from a financial standpoint the great fair has been a failure, but from an artistic point of view it merits very high commendation. We gave a number of newspaper comments recently (December 8); the Reviews are now beginning to discuss the matter. Speaking of the splendid art collections in the Palais des Beaux Arts and the different industrial and mechanical exhibits to be seen along the Rue des Nations, the *Vox Urbis* (a semi-monthly published in Rome in the Latin language) declares that "even the shortest visit to the Paris Exposition was, to an observant person, in itself a liberal education." *Figaro Illustré* (Paris) quotes statistics to prove that the Exposition was the greatest of the century (and, consequently, of all time), and that "it was an unqualified success in the best sense of the word." *La Ilustracion Española y Americana* (Madrid) thinks that the results were "in the highest degree good and useful, and made for civilization." It especially commends the "alimentation and machinery exhibits of America."

All the comments, however, are not so complimentary. In a caustic review, entitled "The End of the Dream," in a recent number of *Le Correspondant*, Louis Joubert calls the Exposition "a gigantic exploitation of the national resources for the benefit of a coterie and a political party," and quotes François Coppée's characterization of a former exhibition as having for "its real *raison d'être* to satisfy the thirst for medals and decorations." M. Joubert says further: "Prematurely opened and badly begun from its very foundations upward, the Exposition terminated in ruin and bankruptcy, having passed through a series of accidents and misfortunes the like of which preceding expositions never knew." Apropos of this premature opening and bad beginning, it is now being declared in the Paris journals that M. Picard, who "made" the Exposition, practically drew up the scheme "while you wait." France believed that Germany was planning an international exposition for 1900, and the French Government determined to appropriate the date. At ten o'clock one morning M. Picard was asked if he could have ready by two in the afternoon a rough scheme for the consideration of the cabinet. At the hour appointed he laid his plan before the President (Carnot) and his ministers. It was at once incorporated in a decree.

The chief "grievance of patriots," declares M. Joubert, "against the originators of this useless exposition" has been the fact that they have "subordinated to personal and party advantage the very honor and standing of France before the world":

"During the three years of its active preparation, all our political interests, domestic as well as foreign, have been made to give way before that one narrow idea—the success of the fair. We have been compelled to submit to the insolence of England in Egypt, to bow our head in humiliation at Fashoda. . . . We have been forced to repress our enthusiasm for the gallant little people struggling for its liberty in South Africa—our generous nation whose heart and hand have always gone out in sympathy and battle for the liberty of America, of Ireland, of Belgium, of Poland, of Greece, of every weak and oppressed people. We have let slip all our opportunities to regain our lost influence and mount once more to our rightful place in the world's counsels, all because the dominant consideration, the welfare of the Exposition, imposed upon us the duty of self-effacement and humiliation. Before all, the 'palace of the cane and the bandbox'; before all, the bazar and the mountebank's platform. We have had to submit to every insult, to choke down every mortification, to let pass every opportunity, lest we jeopardize the success of the Universal Exposition."

The second grave charge made against the management of the Exposition is that, instead of using it as a "peaceful conference for the repudiation of ancient hatreds and time-worn persecutions," the managers of the congresses permitted "all sorts of social discontent and revolutionary incendiarism" to be launched from the tribunes.

Those who received concessions to sell goods or carry on other business enterprises on the fair grounds, the same writer asserts, were "sheared unmercifully." They were subjected to "every imaginable extortion," and most of them realized much less than they paid for their concessions. Twelve restaurant-keepers demanded the return of a total of nearly four millions of francs, declaring they had lost this sum. The writer finds fault with the entire financial management, and speaks of the "incoherence, confusion, and unheard-of disorders" of the exhibition. He quotes M. Henri Houssaye, the Academician, as saying on this last count:

"After twenty or thirty visits one learned (he could not learn it in any other way) that to see Japan he must go successively to the Champ de Mars, to the Esplanade des Invalides, and to the Trocadero; that perfumery was limited to the department of threads and textiles, hygiene to the space devoted to war, and optics to that of pianos; that the exhibits of Greece were separated by those of Turkey, of Sweden, of Spain, of England, of Germany, and of the United States; that the 'exhibition of the ancient charitable associations' was to be found in the 'gallery of alimentation'; that one must look for the specimens of Sévres pottery in the sections devoted to foreign exhibitors; that combs, feathers, and brushes were classed as 'decorative arts'; that the bath-tub of Marat was found in the department of public assistance, and the saber carried by the great Napoleon at Marengo must be sought on the third floor of the pavilion of waters and forests."

Yet, despite all the obstacles, all the mismanagement, M. Joubert concludes that "the fair must be regarded as a triumph of the genius and marvelous vitality of La Belle France."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE following story of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the Premier of Canada, is related by Mr. R. Holmes, a member of the Canadian parliament from West Huron, Ontario: "Some one asked Sir Wilfrid Laurier how it came that he, being a Roman Catholic, was so broad in his views and tendencies toward others. His answer, in effect, was as follows: 'Up to the age of eighteen I could speak nothing but French, and I hired out with a Scotch farmer in order to learn English. Every morning this good man held family worship, and the different members of the household read in turn a verse of the Bible. In the course of time I was invited to remain with the family while morning service was held, and I had every opportunity of judging of the sterling and consistent character of that good farmer and his family, and I must admit that the impressions I there received have remained with me through life, and have undoubtedly influenced me more than I know.'"

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BOOKS RECEIVED.

THE LITERARY DIGEST is in receipt of the following books:

Yawps and Other Things.—William J. Lampton. (Henry Altemus Co., $1.00.)

The Joys of Sport.—W. Y. Stevenson. (Henry Altemus Co., $1.00.)

Le Duc de Reichstadt.—Madame H. Castegnier and Prof. G. Castegnier. (William R. Jenkins, $0.50.)

Vaccination. A Curse and a Menace.—J. M. Peebles, A.M., M.D., Ph.D. (Temple of Health Publishing Co.)

The Story of Cyrus.—Clarence W. Gleason. (American Book Co., $0.75.)

Helps for the Quiet Hour.—[Preface by Rev. Jesse Bowman Young, D.D.] (Eaton & Mains, $1.00)

Man and the Spiritual World.—Rev. Arthur Chambers. (George W. Jacobs & Co., $1.25.)

Instruction for Chinese Women and Girls.—Lady Tsao.—Translated by Mrs. S. L. Baldwin. (Eaton & Mains, $0.75.)

The Lapidaries, and Aunt Deborah hears "The Messiah."—Mrs. Elizabeth Cheney. (Eaton & Mains, $0.30.)

The Bandit Mouse, Etc.—W. A. Frisbie.—(Rand, McNally & Co.)

CURRENT POETRY.

A Seasonable Fellow.

By FRANK L. STANTON.

I'm mighty fond o' winter, when the frost is lyin' gray
On the gardens where we frolicked with the flowers o' the May;
When they have the candy-pullin's, an' the cider's sharp an' sweet,
An' the music o' the fiddle makes a fidget in yer feet!
Then you'll find me *shore*
On the creakin' cabin floor,
A-dancin' ev'ry quadrille an' a-coaxin' 'em fer more!

I've got a friendly feelin' fer the spring, so rosy-dressed,
With the wind in all her ringlets an' the blossoms on her breast;
When the mockin' birds air singin', an' you hear the honey-bees,
An' the robins an' the rabbits air as happy as you please!
Then you'll find me *shore*
Just a-th'owin' wide the door
To the sunshine an' the singin', an' a-whistlin' out fer more!

An' then I like the season when the summer comes along,
An' the drowsy, dreamful weather's like a sigh that's in a song;
When the cattle-bells air clankin' on the dusty hill an' plain,
An' the lilies air a-holdin' of their silver-cups fer rain.
Then I takes my ease
In the shadders o' the trees,
While the partridge in the medder whistles lively fer a breeze!

An' I like the fall time, bretherin'—when the leaves air gold an' gray;
When all's so still 'pears like the wind has sighed itself away
From the scented shadders o' the night, an' from the sleepy day—
When, if you'd only listen, you'd hear *all* the angels —Say!
Then you'll find me *shore*
Jest a-th'owin' wide the door
An' lettin' heaven come down to me, an' askin' 'em fer more!

—*Collier's Weekly.*

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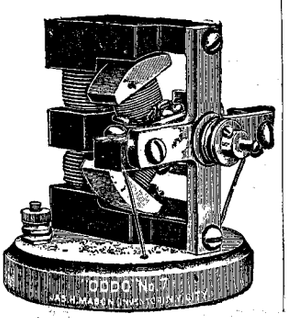

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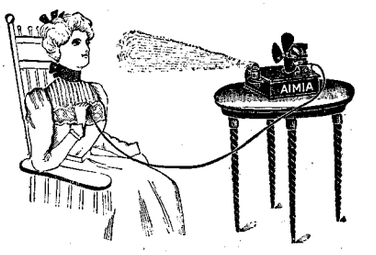

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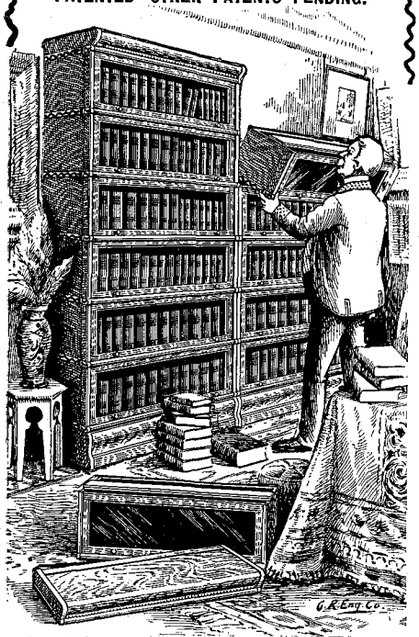

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MORE OR LESS PUNGENT.

But in Another Sense.—

Altho from very earliest dawn
Till set of evening sun,
Back and cross my would-be lawn
My troublesome neighbors run;

And tho they jeer with voice malign,
As back and forth they pass,
They yet, in truth, obey the sign,
For they "keep off the grass."

—*Harlem Life.*

Stealing a March.—The famous composer sat in the orchestra-chair and listened to the comic opera of his rival. As the chorus roared out a swinging, familiar air, the tears started to the great musician's eyes. "Ah," he said sadly, "I would not have believed it, but he has stolen a march on me."

To those familiar with his works, the truth of this remark would have been apparent.—*Princeton Tiger.*

He was all Fixed.—One of the churches in a little Western town is so fortunate as to have a young woman as its pastor. She was called to the door of the parsonage one day, and saw there a much-embarrassed young farmer of the German type. "Dey said der minister lifed in dis house," he said. "Yes," replied the fair pastor. "Vell—m—I—I vant to kit merrit!" "To get married? Very well, I can marry you," said the ministeress, encouragingly. "Oh, but I got a girl alreaty," was the disconcerting reply.—*Brooklyn Life.*

With the Critics.—"It seems a pity," droned critic No. 1 (a heavy man), "that in Mr. Stephen Phillips' play of 'Herod' we should twice be confronted with the sight of dead persons on a bier—namely, Aristobulus in Act I., and Mariamne in Act III. And the trick is all the more deplorable by reason of the circumstance that Mr. Phillips has previously had recourse to it in his 'Paolo and Francesca.'" "Um," grunted critic No. 2, who is something of a wag. "But surely you don't wish to deprive a poor poet of his bier."—*St. James's Gazette.*

The Disease and the Cure.—The candidate, in the course of a speech just previous to election, had occasion to refer to the flogging of children. "Some folks," he said, "object to beating youngsters, but I agree with the truth conveyed in that saying of the wise man, 'Spare the rod and spoil the child.' I suppose I was no worse than other boys," he went on to say, "but I know I had some flogging myself, and I believe it did me good. On one occasion I was flogged for telling the truth." "It cured you, sir!" cried a voice from the back.—*London Answers.*

"Out of the Mouth of Babes."—Mr. William Canton, in his book "Children's Sayings," reveals many bright phases of child life. A writer in *The Westminster Gazette*, in reviewing the book, says:

"A few of the stories, picked out at random, may be given. The loving-kindness of children is one of the most charming characteristics. Two little lads were discussing how much they loved their father and mother. The elder said: 'Oh, I couldn't live without "muvver"; if she ever dies, I shall go and dig her up.' His brother replied: 'Yours is a very stupid plan: when "farver" dies I'm going to have him stuffed.' As examples of the combination of 'wild imagination and sound common sense' in children, Mr. Canton gives the following:

"A lady meeting a small boy whom she knew, asked him where he was going. He answered: 'I am going into the town to spend a penny, but I haven't got one.'

"A gentleman found his little daughter crying

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bitterly because she had had a tumble. 'Never mind, Wynnie,' he said, 'won't a chocolate make it better?' 'No,' said the child between her sobs, 'but two would do it.'

"A London child, in a copse carpeted with wild hyacinths, gathered bunches of the blue flowers, and shaking them on either side of her head, cried, 'They ring the sweetest music I have ever heard.'

"A little boy and girl, whose mother was ill and inaccessible, were overheard by their aunt holding the following pathetic consultation on the subject of their nurse's unkindness to them:

"'What shall we do?' said the girl hopelessly. 'I'm going to ask father to send nurse away,' replied her brother sturdily. 'What shall you do if he won't?' 'Then I'll ask God to help us.' 'But perhaps God won't send her away.' 'Well, then,' said the little chap in desperate earnest, 'I'll see what the devil can do for us.'

"After proper investigation it is pleasant to know that the nurse was dismissed."

Mr. Dooley on "L'Aiglon."—The new volume by Mr. Dunne entitled "Mr. Dooley's Philosophy," while perhaps not quite up to the level of his two preceding books, is generally accepted as an excellent piece of humor. Among the best touches in the volume is the following graphic description of a well-known scene in "L'Aiglon," as conceived by the Chicago philosopher:

"Wan day a tailor shows up to measure him (the Duc de Reichstadt) f'r some clothes. Th' tailor, d'ye mind, is a rivolutionist in disguise, an' has come down fr'm Paris f'r to injooce th' young man to take th' vacancy. 'Fourteen, six, thirty-three. How'll ye have th' pants made, Impror?' says th' tailor. 'Wan or two hip pockets?' says he.

"'Two hips,' says young Napolyon. 'What do ye mean be that?' he says.

"'Thirty-eight, siventeen, two sides, wan watch, buckle behind. All Paris awaits ye, sire.'"

"'Make th' sleeves a little longer thin this,' says th' boy. 'An' fill out th' shouldhers. What proof have I?'"

"'Wan or two inside pockets?' says th' tailor. 'Two insides. Hankerchief pocket? Wan hankerchief. Th' pants is warn much fuller this year. Make that twinty-eight instid iv twinty-siven,' he says. 'Paris shrieks f'r ye,' he says.

"'Proof,' says th' la-ad.

"'They've named a perfume afther ye, a shirt waist, a paper collar, a five-cint see-gar, a lot iv childher. Nay more, a breakfast dish christened f'r ye is on ivry lip. Will I forward th' soot collect?' he says."

Current Events.

Foreign.

CHINA.

December 31.—Emperor Kwang Su, reports say, has written a letter congratulating the Czar on his recovery.

January 1.—Li Hung Chang expresses the belief that the Chinese Emperor will accede to the requests of the powers.

The murderer of Baron von Ketteler is beheaded.

January 5.—Count von Waldersee gives notice to his staff to cease hostilities.

Li Hung Chang suffers a relapse, and his illness delays peace negotiations.

January 6.—The Empress-Dowager of China orders one of the Chinese generals to move to the Yang-tse valley and thence northward with an army of 15,000 men.

Count von Waldersee agrees not to operate in certain districts of Pe-chi-li province.

SOUTH AFRICA.

December 31.—The loyalists of Cape Colony, it is said, have been asked to organize a paid defense corps to help repel the Boer invaders, who have penetrated farther south than ever.

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January 1.—General Knox, who has been following De Wet, reports the capture of some of De Wet's supplies.

General French reports the capture of a Boer despatch rider.

January 2.—Martial law is proclaimed in five divisions of Cape Colony, due to the rising of the Dutch.

De Wet is headed off by Pilcher, and the British occupy Graaf Reinet, in the heart of the disaffected district of Cape Colony.

January 5.—General Kitchener reports the reappearance of the Boers on the railway north of Bloemfontein.

OTHER FOREIGN NEWS.

January 1.—The Earl of Hopetoun is sworn in as the first governor-general of the Federation of Australian colonies.

January 2.—Lord Roberts is greeted personally by the Queen at Osborne Castle, Isle of Wight, and she confers an earldom on him and makes him a Knight of the Garter.

More revolutionary risings are reported in the provinces of Venezuela.

January 3.—Earl Roberts proceeds from Southampton to London, where he is received with royal honors.

January 4.—Earl Roberts assumes charge of the army headquarters in London.

Reports of an outbreak of plague at Vladivostok and a renewal of plague cases at Smyrna are confirmed.

Domestic.

CONGRESS.

January 3.—Business is resumed after the holiday recess.

House: Much excitement is caused by a resolution offered by Mr. Olmsted, of Pennsylvania, looking to the reduction of representation from Southern States in which the franchise is abridged; the Democrats filibustered against consideration, and adjournment is forced by a vote of 77 to 75.

January 4.—*House:* The Olmsted resolution proposing an investigation of disfranchisement methods in the South is referred to the committee on census.

DOMESTIC NEWS.

January 1.—Benjamin B. Odell, Jr., is inaugurated as governor of New York State.

January 2.—The New York State legislature meets and organizes, Senator Ellsworth being reelected president *pro tem* of the Senate.

January 5.—The Census Bureau issues a bulletin stating that the center of population is in latitude 39.9.36; longitude 85.48.54.

January 6.—Philip D. Armour, the head of the packing house of Armour & Co., dies in Chicago.

AMERICAN DEPENDENCIES.

January 4.—*Philippines:* Generals Wheaton and Bates report small captures, the destruction of insurgents' camps, and the seizure of supplies in Luzon.

January 5.—*Philippines:* The Philippine Commission passes a bill appointing trustees to institute legal proceedings to determine whether the ownership and control of the San Jose medical college of Manila are vested in the church or in the United States Government.

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IS TRANSPARENT, WHICH PROVES ITS PURITY.

Compare two moulds of jelly—one made from your "old kind"; one from Knox's. You will see what we mean. Also, there is **no odor from Knox's Gelatine**—another proof of purity.

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my book of seventy "Dainty Desserts for Dainty People," if you will send the name of your grocer. If you can't do this, send a two-cent stamp.

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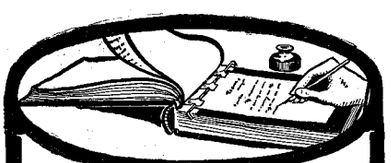

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It is the purest and best soap, both for the toilet and for shaving.

All sorts of people use Pears' soap, all sorts of stores sell it, especially druggists.

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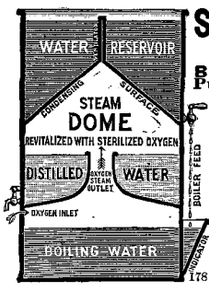
Sold at our Stores and by
GROCERS EVERYWHERE



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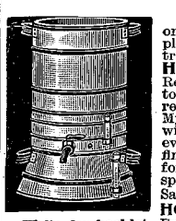
178 Harrison Bldg., Cincinnati, O.



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on your kitchen stove furnishes plenty of distilled aerated water at trifling cost. Simple as a tea kettle. Hon. JUDSON W. LYONS, Register of the Treasury, Washington, D. C., writes: "I can cheerfully recommend your Sanitary Still. My wife and friends are delighted with it. We have tried pretty much everything in the line of filters, but find them too much trouble to care for. The water from your Still is sparkling, pure and palatable." The Sanitary Still used in the WHITE HOUSE. Highest award at Paris Exposition.

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CHESS.

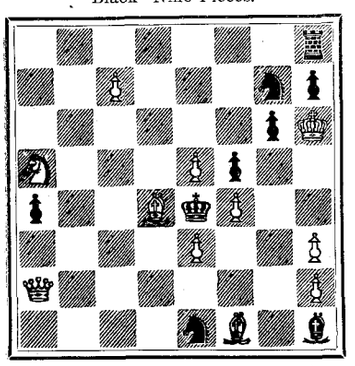
[All communications for this Department should be addressed: "Chess Editor, LITERARY DIGEST."]

Problem 530.

By F. FUCHLI.

From *The Schweizerische Schachzeitung.*

Black—Nine Pieces.



White—Eleven Pieces.

White mates in three moves.

Solution of Problems

No. 526 (1st).

Key-move, R—K B 6.

No. 527.

1. Kt—B 8 / K—K 4	2. Kt (B 8)—Q 7 ch / K—B 4	3. P—K 4, mate
	2. ..... / K—Q 3	3. Kt—K 8, mate
1. ..... / K x R	2. Kt (B 8)—Q 7 ch / K—Q 3 (must)	3. Kt—K 8, mate
1. ..... / B—K 6	2. Kt (B 8)—Q 7 / B x R	3. Kt—K 8, mate
	2. ..... / Other	3. R—B 6, mate

Both problems solved by M. W. H., University of Virginia; the Rev. I. W. Bieber, Bethlehem, Pa.; H. W. Barry, Boston; C. R. Oldham, Moundsville, W. Va.; M. Marble, Worcester, Mass.; W. W., Cambridge, Mass.; A Knight, Hillsboro, Tex.; W. R. Coumbe, Lakeland, Fla.; F. S. Ferguson, Birmingham, Ala.; the Rev. G. Dobbs, New Orleans; A. S. Ormsby, Emmetsburg, Ia.; P. A. Towne, West Edmeston, N. Y.; N. Weil, Calhoun, Ky.; O. C. Brett, Humboldt, Kan.; D. Schandi, Corning, Ark.; Prof. W. W. Smith, Randolph-Macon College, Lynchburg, Va.; Miss E. C. Cram, Wilton, N. H.; D. G. Harris, Memphis; R. J. Williams, Ashland, Pa.; G. Patterson, Winnipeg, Can.; F. E. Reid, New York City; F. F. Carroll, Aiken, S. C.; Dr. O. L. Telling, Independence, Col.; T. Hilgers, Paterson, N. J.

526 (only): The Rev. F. H. Johnston, Tarboro, N. C.; W. J. Leake, Richmond, Va.; Prof. R. H. Dabney, University of Virginia; F. B. Osgood, North Conway, N. H.; S. Stoddard, Kansas City, Mo.; G. B. Morrison Battle Creek, Mich.; "Merope," Cincinnati; R. S. Eskridge, Swannanoa, N. C.; H. Coss, Cattaraugus, N. Y.; E. M. McCall, Nevada, Ia.

Comments (526): "Made without sight, yet with insight"—I. W. B.; "An original setting of a very old and worn-out theme"—H. W. B.; "Very good"—M. M.; "Many a problematist who can see, fails to make as good a one as this"—A K.; "Compound subtlety in key"—W. R. C.; "For a *sans voir* conception it is fine"—G. D.; "One of the best 100 for the Hall of Fame"—P. A. T.; "Fine"—N. W.; "One of the best and most difficult of 2-movers"—E. C. C.; "Very clever"—W. J. L.

(527): "A Knightly novelty"—I. W. B.; "Economy is sacrificed to purity in this rather shallow, tho fairly good, version of an old idea"—H. W. B.; "A most excellent 3-er with some fine points"—M. M.; "A fine problem despite duals"—A K.; "Commonplace in the extreme"—W. R. C.; "First class"—F. S. F.; "Rather *jejune*"—G. D.; "Very difficult"—A. S. O.; "All right, but not in the Hall of Fame"—P. A. T.; "Novel by reason of the successive moves of the first Kt"—N. W.

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is not a cheap, shoddy, flimsy affair, but is **GUARANTEED TO BE THE BEST CABINET ON EARTH, OR YOUR MONEY CHEERFULLY REFUNDED.** Has latest improvements—a real door, on metal hinges, not a bag to pull on over head, or a hole to crawl through. **It has a strong, rigid, galv. steel frame.** Covering best, antiseptic, hygienic cloth, **rubber lined.** Our Cabinet does not rest on the shoulders, nor pull on over head. **No woodwork to rot, warp, crack or pull apart. A wooden frame for a Cabinet would be about as valuable as a wooden stove. Our Cabinet will last 20 years, is large and roomy,** knees, arms and legs do not touch the sides. Plenty of room for hot foot bath and to sponge, towel and cool the body while inside. **Our New Heater, Rack and Vapor Cup** are the best. **TO OPERATE** simply open door, **step in, sit down.** (All done in one minute). Bathe, open top **curtains,** cool off perfectly, step out. Only perfect Cabinet made. Folds flat in 1 inch space. Weighs but 10 lbs. Easily carried. **RECOMMENDED BY OVER 1,000,000 HAPPY USERS**—such eminent people as Alice B. Stockham, M. D.; Chicago, Editor of "Tokology;" Hon. Chauncey M. Depew, U. S. Senator; Congressman John J. Lentz; Louis Morrison; Rt. Rev. Bishop J. L. Spalding; Rev. C. M. Keith, Editor "Holiness Advocate;" Senator S. McCarrell, and thousands of others.

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HOT QUAKER BATHS BENEFIT every MAN, WOMAN AND CHILD.

Open the 5,000,000 pores of the skin, sweat out all the poisons in the blood, which if retained, overwork the heart, lungs, liver and kidneys. **Make clear skin, bright eyes.** Keeps you strong, vigorous and healthy. **Prevents** Colds, Lagrippe, Fevers, Consumption, and all Disease.

WE POSITIVELY GUARANTEE RESULTS.

Our medicated bath treatment will cure Nervous Troubles, Debility, Weakness, Sleeplessness, Neuralgia, Aches, Pains, Colds, Lagrippe, Obesity. **Cures Rheumatism** (we offer $50 reward for a case that cannot be relieved). **Cures** Headache, Gout, Sciatica, Piles, Dropsy, Diabetes, Indigestion, **all blood, skin, liver, stomach** and **kidney troubles.** Not only cures, but prevents all ailments peculiar to ladies.

Not Ours. All cheap affairs, pull on over head like this are **Dangerous.**

Not Ours. Cheap, flimsy affair, top separate, pulls on over head said to be Dangerous. Raise up or move Cabinet falls to pieces.

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With the Cabinet, if desired, is a **Head** and **Complexion Steaming Attachment. Beautifies complexion.** Cures and prevents skin eruptions and diseases, Eczema, Pimples, Blotches, Blackheads, Asthma, Catarrh, Bronchitis, all Throat Trouble. **IF OURS IS NOT THE BEST CABINET MADE WE DON'T WANT YOU TO KEEP IT,** but so confident are we that it will please you, that

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S. W. Shaw, Midnapore, Can.; A. Wolodarsky, New Haven, got 524 and 525; O. S. B., 525.

Twenty-three States represented by the solvers of 526 and 527.

ERRATA.—Problem 526 in DIGEST December 29th should be 522, and that of January 4th should be 529 instead of 527.

WE receive very many *original* problems, which we can't use, because of evident defects. We are always glad to publish problems composed by our solvers; but these problems must have something special to recommend them. The Chess-Department of THE LITERARY DIGEST is not for the exploitation of *original* compositions, but first and most specially for the presentation of the works of distinguished problematists. When we publish a problem composed by one of our friends, we must, in a large sense, stand sponsor for it; but when we publish prize-problems or those that represent famous composers, we are not responsible for the defects. While we try to select the very best problems that we can find—and it is generally conceded that THE LITERARY DIGEST Problems are of great excellence—yet we must, occasionally, publish problems that do not come up to our standard. We hope that our Chess-friends will not feel aggrieved on account of the non-appearance of their problems; the fact is that if we published all the problems sent to us, we would not have room for any others.

WE have been requested to explain what is known as the Forsyth Notation. It is hardly possible to do this without a diagram; but if you will take Problem 522, we will try to make it plain. Begin at Black's Q R sq, use a figure to indicate the number of *vacant* squares, and capital letters for White's pieces, small letters for Black's. Then 522 will read:

8. p 7. r 2 P Q 3. 1 P 1 R 1 p 2. b p k Kt 1 p 2. 4 kt R 2. 1 P 6. 5 kt K 1.

You see that on the first row there are no pieces, hence 8; in the second row a black P on the first square, hence p 7, etc.

"The Hall of Fame."

What do you think of the idea of selecting fifty of the problems published in THE LITERARY DIGEST for the "Hall of Fame?" If this idea strikes you favorably, select the twenty 2-ers, and the thirty 3-ers that you consider entitled to this distinction. We will keep the "polls" open until March 1st. We are quite sure that this will prove extremely interesting as revealing the various tastes of our solvers and, also, the faculty to discern the intrinsic merits of a problem. In making your list, give the number of each problem.

A Brazilian Diamond.

This very remarkable game was played a short time ago in Rio de Janeiro:

Evans Gambit.

DR. VIANNA. *White.*	A. SILVESTRE. *Black.*	DR. VIANNA. *White.*	A. SILVESTRE. *Black.*
1 P—K 4	P—K 4	18 Q R—K sq	Q—Q B 4
2 Kt—K B 3	Kt—Q B 3	19 B—B 7 ch	K—B sq
3 B—B 4	B—B 4	20 B—Kt 6 ch	B—B 4 (a)
4 P—Q Kt 4	B x P	21 B x B	Kt x B
5 P—B 3	B—R 4	22 Kt—K 4	Q—Kt 3
6 P—Q 4	P x P	23 R x Kt ch	K—Kt sq
7 Castles	P—Q 3	24 Kt—Q 6 (b)	P x P ch
8 Q—Kt 3	Q—B 3	25 K—R sq	P—K R 3 (c)
9 P—K 5	P x P	26 Q—Q 5 ch	K—R 2
10 R—K sq	B—Q 2	27 Q—K 4	K—Kt sq
11 B—K Kt 5	Q—B 4	28 Q—K 6 ch	K—R 2
12 Kt x K P	Kt x Kt	29 R—B 6	K R—B sq (d)
13 P—K B 4	P—K B 3	30 Q—B 5 ch	K—Kt sq
14 Q x Kt P	R—Q sq	31 R x R ch	R x R
15 P x Kt	P x B	32 Q x R ch	K x Q
16 R—B sq	Q x P	33 R—K 8 mate (e)	
17 Kt—Q 2	Kt—K 2		

Notes from The Times, London.

(a) It is necessary to interpose thus, for if K—Kt sq; 21 Q—Kt 3 ch, Kt—Q 4; 22 B—B 7 ch, etc.

(b) This is remarkably fine. The Queen is *en prise* of three pieces, but any capture appears fatal. If, for example, Q x Kt, there is an easy win by Q—Kt 3 ch.

(c) If 25..., Q x Q; 26 Kt x Q, P—B 7; 27 Kt x B, R—Q 8; 28 K R—K B sq, P—B 8 = Q; 29 R mates.

(d) If P x R, 30 Q—B 7, mate.

(e) The finish is most brilliant, and the play all through quite out of the common.

PHYSICIANS AGREE

that **Robinson's Bath Cabinet** cures the very worst cases of RHEUMATISM, NEURALGIA, COLDS, CATARRH, ASTHMA, TYPHOID and OTHER FEVERS, CONGESTIONS, KIDNEY, LIVER, SKIN and BLOOD DISEASES, OBESITY and STOMACH TROUBLES, SOOTHES THE NERVES, and PREVENTS SICKNESS. GIVES A BEAUTIFUL COMPLEXION. **A TURKISH BATH AT HOME FOR 2 CENTS.** It opens the pores, and sweats the POISONS (which cause disease) out of the blood. The best Physicians in America and Europe endorse and use the Robinson Bath Cabinet.

Dr. Anderson, of Yale University, says: "I am using your cabinet in the College gymnasium, and at my home. I find it very valuable in treating **Rheumatism** and many other **diseases.**"

Dr. Brereton says: "It has become a question with me not that the Vapor Bath **will cure,** but what it **will not cure.** Pains and aches vanish as if by magic."

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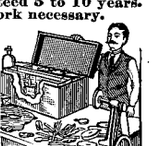

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"NO-UNDER-SHADOW"

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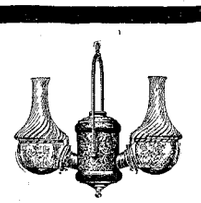

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